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ECOSYSTEMS IMPROVED FOR SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES (ECOFISH) Project

YEAR 4 SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT (01 OCTOBER 2015 – 31 MARCH 2016)

ECOFISH Document No.: 02/2016
Version: Final

Implemented with:

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

Supported by:

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

Managed by:

Tetra Tech ARD

14 May 2015

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

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

700DALOY	-	700 Dedicated Alert Lines for Ocean Biodiversity
AIM	-	Asian Institute of Management
AMPA	-	Adopt a Marine Protected Area Project
ARD	-	Associates in Rural Development
ARMM	-	Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao
ATFI	-	Alter Trade Foundation, Inc.
BCM	-	Balik Calautit Movement
BERT	-	Batangas Environmental Response Team
BFAR	-	Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
BoatR	-	National Municipal Fishing Boat Registration System
BuB	-	Bottom-up-Budgeting
C3	-	Community Centered Conservation
CADT	-	Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title
CAMASS	-	Cabangahan Mangingisda Association
CBA	-	Cost Benefit Analysis
CBLA	-	Cash for Building Livelihood Assets
CBMRS	-	Campomanes-Ballo Marine Reserve and Sanctuary
CCA	-	Climate Change Adaptation
CCCNI	-	Calamianes Conservation and Cultural Networks Inc.
CCEF	-	Coastal Conservation Education Foundation
CCT	-	Conditional Cash Transfer
CDTS	-	Catch Documentation and Traceability System
CFLET	-	City Fisheries Law Enforcement Team
CFRM	-	Coastal and Fisheries Resources Management
CFVR	-	Commercial Fishing Vessel Registration
CI	-	Conservation International
CIG	-	Calamianes Island Group
CLEAR7	-	Coastal Law Enforcement Alliance of Region 7
CLEC	-	Coastal Law Enforcement Council
CLET	-	Coastal Law Enforcement Team
CLUP	-	Comprehensive Land Use Plan
CLWUP	-	Comprehensive Land and Water Use Plan
CMN	-	Calamianes Island Group MPA Network
CNFIDP	-	Comprehensive National Fisheries Industry Development Plan
COMPETE	-	Advancing Philippine Competitiveness Project
COP	-	Chief of Party
COR	-	Contracting Officer's Representative
CRM	-	Coastal Resources Management
CSO	-	Civil Society Organization
CTI	-	Coral Triangle Initiative
CVA	-	Coastal Vulnerability Assessment
CWUP	-	Coastal and Water Use Plan
DA	-	Department of Agriculture
DAP	-	Development Academy of the Philippines

DBM	-	Department of Budget and Management
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
DMMSU	-	Don Mariano Marcos State University
DOF	-	Department of Finance
DOLE	-	Department of Labor and Employment
DOST	-	Department of Science and Technology
DSWD	-	Department of Social Work and Development
DTI	-	Department of Trade and Industry
EAFM	-	Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management
ECAN	-	Environmentally Critical Areas Network
ECOFISH	-	Ecosystems Improved for Sustainable Fisheries
EDC	-	Economic Development Committee
ELAC	-	Environmental Legal Assistance Center
EO	-	Executive Order
EwE	-	Ecopath with Ecosim
FARMC	-	Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council
FGD	-	Focus Group Discussion
FIMC	-	Fisheries Information Management Center
FIMS	-	Fisheries Information Management System
FISH	-	Fisheries Improved for Sustainable Harvest Project
FishR	-	National Program for Municipal Fisherfolk Registration
FLE	-	Fishery Law Enforcement
FLEMIS	-	Fishery Law Enforcement Management Information System
FPIC	-	Free-Prior Informed Consent
FRM	-	Fisheries Resources Management
GIS	-	Geographic Information System
GPH	-	Government of the Philippines
HIPADA	-	Hinatuan Passage Development Alliance
IEC	-	Information, Education and Communication
IFRM	-	Integrated Fishery Resource Management
IP	-	Indigenous Peopole
IRR	-	Implementing Rules and Regulations
IT	-	Information Technology
IUUF	-	Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing
KII	-	Key Informant Interview
KIM	-	Knowledge and Information Management
LCE	-	Local Chief Executive
LGU	-	Local Government Unit
LMP	-	League of Municipalities of the Philippines
LOP	-	Life of Project
LPRAT	-	Local Poverty Reduction Action Team
LUBNSF	-	La Union Baywatch Network for Sustainable Fisheries
MAO	-	Municipal Agriculture Officer

MARINA	-	Maritime Industry Development Authority
MARPSTA	-	Maritime Police Station
MDRRMC	-	Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council
MEAT	-	Management Effectiveness Assessment Tool
MERF	-	Marine Environment Resources Foundation, Inc.
MFI	-	Malampaya Foundation Incorporated
MKBA	-	Marine Key Biodiversity Area
MMSU	-	Mariano Marcos State University
MOA	-	Memorandum of Agreement
MOU	-	Memorandum of Understanding
MPA	-	Marine Protected Area
MSN	-	MPA Support Network
MSP	-	Marine Spatial Planning
MSU	-	Mindanao State University
NALECC	-	National Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee
NAMRIA	-	National Mapping and Resource Information Authority
NAPC	-	National Anti-Poverty Commission
NCIP	-	National Commission on Indigenous Peoples
NEDA	-	National Economic and Development Authority
NFARMC	-	National Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council
NFR	-	NGOs for Fisheries Reform
NFRDI	-	National Fisheries Research and Development Institute
NGA	-	National Government Agencies
NGO	-	Non-Governmental Organization
NOAA	-	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NSAP	-	National Stock Assessment Program
PACPI	-	Philippine Association of Crab Processors, Inc.
PAGE	-	Palawan Advocates for Good Governance and Empowerment
PAMB	-	Protected Area Management Board
PAO	-	Provincial Agriculture Officer
PCA	-	Philippine Coconut Authority
PCG	-	Philippine Coast Guard
PCRA	-	Participatory Coastal Resource Assessment
PCSDS	-	Palawan Council for Sustainable Development Staff
PCV	-	Peace Corps Volunteer
PEDO	-	Police Environment Desk Office
PEMO	-	Provincial Environment Management Officer
PEMSEA	-	Partnership in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia
PENRO	-	Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office
PES	-	Payment for Ecosystem Services
PFO	-	Provincial Fisheries Officer
PGENRO	-	Provincial Government Environment and Natural Resources Officer
PHILJA	-	Philippine Judicial Academy
PHILSSA	-	Partnership of Philippine Support Services Agencies Inc,
PHIVOLCS	-	Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology
PNP	-	Philippine National Police

PNP-MG	-	Philippine National Police – Maritime Group
PO	-	People’s Organization
PPA	-	Philippine Ports Authority
PPP	-	Public-Private Partnership
PRRCFI	-	Philippine Reef and Rainforest Foundation, Inc.
QRT	-	Quick Response Team
RA	-	Republic Act
RACE	-	Recognition Awards for CIG Enhanced Ecosystems
RDMA	-	Regional Development Mission for Asia
REECS	-	Resources Environment and Economics Center for Studies, Inc.
RTD	-	Roundtable Discussion
SAF	-	Special Activities Fund
SB	-	Sangguniang Bayan
SCTR	-	State of the Coral Triangle Report
SEA	-	Sea and Earth Advocates
SEAFDEC	-	South East Asia Fisheries Development Center
SEAT	-	Socio-economic Effectiveness Assessment Tool
SEC	-	Security and Exchange Commission
SEKAYA	-	Center for Indigenous Knowledge
SEMFIISH	-	Sustainable Enterprises for Municipal Fishing Communities of South Negros
SEP	-	Strategic Environmental Plan
SGIDS	-	Senior Governance and Institutional Development Specialist
SLP	-	Sustainable Livelihood Program
SMRR	-	State of the Marine Resources Report
SNCDMC	-	Southern Negros Coastal Development and Management Council
SUAKCREM	-	Silliman University-Angelo King Center for Research and Environmental Management
SPMPMC	-	Siete Pecados Marine Park Management Council
SUC	-	State Universities and Colleges
TTCIA	-	Tagbanua Tribes of Coron Island Association
TVWS	-	Television White Space
TWG	-	Technical Working Group
UPMSI	-	University of the Philippines Marine Science Institute
UPVFI	-	University of the Philippines in the Visayas Foundation, Inc.
USAID	-	United States Agency for International Development
VA	-	Vulnerability Assessment
VIP	-	Verde Island Passage
VMG	-	Vision, Mission and Goals
WTP	-	Willingness to Pay
WWF	-	World Wide Fund for Nature
ZSL	-	Zoological Society of London

1. Introduction

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

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

This Semi-Annual Report documents the activities and interventions during the two quarters (2) quarters of ECOFISH project implementation covering the period 01 October 2015 to 31 March 2016.

2. Project Objectives

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

The ECOFISH Project is designed to make an impact in eight MKBAs in the country (Figure 1), namely: (1) the Calamianes Group of Islands MKBA, (2) Lingayen Gulf MKBA, (3) Ticao Pass - Lagonoy Gulf - San Bernardino MKBA, (4) Danajon Reef MKBA, (5) South Negros MKBA, (6) Surigao del Sur and Surigao del Norte MKBA, (7) Sulu Archipelago MKBA, and (8) Verde Island Passage MKBA. They represent all six marine bio-regions of the Philippines and were

selected due to their extremely high need for marine biodiversity conservation. These areas are marine ecosystem “hotspots” in the Philippines that mirror the common issues impacting capture fisheries locally and nationally, namely:

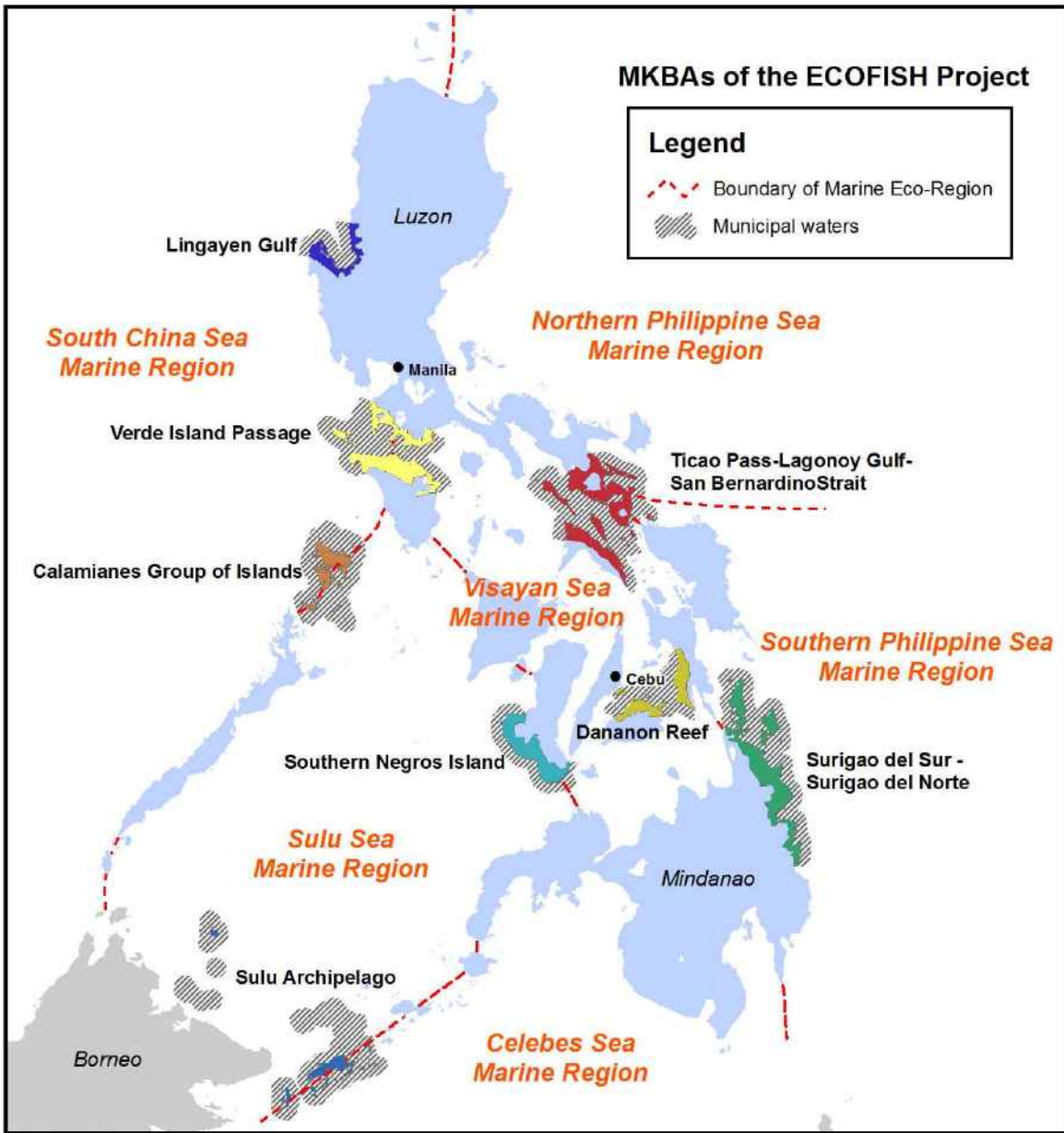
- loss of marine biodiversity;
- declining fish stocks;
- high population growth;
- limited private sector investment;
- inconsistent policies and programs for sustainable fisheries; and
- weak institutional and stakeholder capacity to plan and implement fisheries management.

Although majority of project activities cut across these eight MKBAs, implementation strategies, focus, priorities, and levels of engagement differ from place to place mainly because each MKBA has unique ecosystem features, opportunities, and threats. Table 1 shows the general ecosystem features, opportunities and threats in the eight MKBAs.

At the end of five years, the 13 ECOFISH project deliverables (see Table 2) are expected to lead to the following key results:

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

Table 2 presents the main relationship between the 13 deliverables and the six key results. Deliverables leading to Results C and D build the foundation for project activities. Those for Results E and F drive the implementation at the MKBA level, and taken together they attain the overall ECOFISH Results A and B.



Quick summary of ECOFISH MKBAs

MKBA	ECOFISH Partner LGUs		ECOFISH Focal LGUs	
	n	Area of Municipal Waters (sq km)	n	Area of Municipal Waters (sq km)
Lingayen Gulf	17	2,934.6	8	1,150.1
Calamianes Group of Islands	4	10,377.8	4	10,377.8
Danajon Reef	20	4,912.7	13	2,863.3
South Negros Island	11	3,933.0	7	3,298.7
Sulu Archipelago	11	19,354.1	6	5,825.2
Surigao del Sur/del Norte	39	11,052.1	6	1,066.6
Verde Island Passage	26	9,031.7	9	1,559.7
Ticao Pass - Lagonoy Gulf - San Bernardino Strait	42	13,548.5	10	3,203.9

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

Table 1. Summary of Ecosystem Features, Opportunities and Threats in the Eight MKBAs

MKBA	Ecosystem Features	Opportunities	Threats
Calamianes Island Group	70 percent of the coral and seagrass species recorded in the Philippines	Take advantage of focus on MPA management to support ecotourism and economic alternatives; collaborate and leverage work at CTI demonstration site.	Destructive fishing and uncontrolled live fish trade; one weak LGU reduces impact of inter-LGU alliance activities.
Danajon Reef	One of only three double barrier reefs in the Indo-Pacific region	Take advantage of strong provincial and municipal buy-in of CRM programs to further EAFM goals. Strong LGU alliances.	High fish demand lead to high fishing pressure and illegal fishing.
Lingayen Gulf	Extensive coral reef, seagrass, and soft bottom community supporting the rich fishing ground	Ability to identify specific protection and management interventions from long-term fisheries data sets; leverage high awareness due to past environmental programs to implement EAFM activities.	Severe overfishing and poor water quality in mariculture areas resulting in fish kills; lack of inter-LGU alliances.
Ticao Pass - Lagonoy Gulf - San Bernardino	Diverse small pelagic resources; important habitat for dolphins, dugongs, and whale sharks	Utilize long-term data for Lagonoy Gulf and Sorsogon Bay to identify specific interventions; take advantage of active university involvement to participate in project activities and development of employment from growing marine ecotourism sector.	Steep declines in fish stocks; encroachment of commercial vessels; complex marine ecosystem; lack of inter-LGU alliances.
South Negros Island	Deep water harbors; large and small pelagic fishes	Begin to formalize and develop EAFM activities by building on long history of community-based marine protected areas.	No comprehensive assessment of capture fisheries; lack of inter-LGU alliances.
Sulu Archipelago	Rich ecosystem with massive network of coral reefs, seagrass beds and mangroves	Collaborate and leverage work at CTI demonstration site; begin the capacity building by capitalizing on increasing awareness on coastal and fisheries resource management.	Still weak management and law enforcement and lack of formal inter-LGU alliance agreements; unsustained support from some local governments.
Surigao del Sur and Surigao del Norte	Extensive deep water and shallow water coral reef, seagrass and soft bottom resources	Take advantage of strong inter-LGU alliances to leverage and increase fisheries interventions.	Upland erosion and siltation from mine tailings of nearshore impacting habitats.
Verde Island Passage	Considered the ‘center of the center’ of the world’s fish diversity	Long-term marine conservation initiatives by NGOs; CTI demonstration site.	Encroachment of commercial vessels, use of cyanide in aquarium fish collection.

Table 2. Main Relationship between Project Deliverables and Key Results

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

3. General Work Plan Overview

Guided by the LOP Work Plan (ECOFISH Document No. 01/2013) and the Years 1, 2, 3 and 4 Annual Work Plans (ECOFISH Document No. 02/2012, 10/2013, 04/2014 and 04/2015), this document describes the host of activities and interventions during the two (2) quarters that cover fourth year of ECOFISH Project life implementation, from 01 October 2015 to 31 March 2016. Major thrusts during this period include the following:

- Primary focus on interventions at both the inter-LGU level and at the individual LGU level that will improve or trigger the improvement of their individual LGU benchmarks;
- Policies to be crafted will mostly be in support of site-level fisheries management interventions;
- Continue to focus on interventions that will serve as building blocks as well as directly influence the achievement of the final outcomes of the Project;
- Use baseline assessment and monitoring results as inputs to fisheries management plans and socio-economic interventions;
- Continue establishment of individual MPAs and strengthen networks of MPAs by developing network designs that incorporates mitigation of impacts of climate change and threats due to habitat-destructive fishing and pollution;
- Support LGUs in their implementation of FishR (National System on Fisherfolk Registration) and BoatR (National System on Municipal Fishing Boat Registration);
- Support BFAR in enhancing its capacity to store, retrieve and analyze data from FishR, BoatR, and other related database systems;
- Accelerate the establishment of community partnerships and develop strategies for their sustainability and maintenance;
- Accelerate and expand enterprise development initiatives;
- Finalize, test, and roll out the Municipal Fisheries Management Start-Up Guide;
- Continue the development of market-based financing instruments; and
- Continue to integrate communication strategies into key interventions and expected results for sharing with a bigger and broader audience.

With the end of project looming in the horizon, the team tightened its Monitoring and Evaluation procedures to ensure right-on-time completion of deliverables. Field activities of the monitoring team became more frequent. Likewise, feedback on the results of the Midterm Performance Evaluation conducted in this period also allow the project to refocus its activities to interventions that require more attention.

Figure 2 summarizes the general calendar of ECOFISH activities and interventions for the life of project, showing a higher time resolution during the fourth year of project implementation. These activities and interventions are planned to culminate during specific periods and their schedule of completion are described in the LOP Work Plan.

	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4												Y5	
				O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S		
Start up																	
LOP work plan																	
Consult with LGU																	
Baseline Assessment																	
Monitoring																	
Revisit LGUs																	
Revisit LGUs																	
Moni-toring																	
Policy needs assessment																	
Policy forums, policy studies to integrate EAFM, MPA and CCA, enforcement, revenue generation, sustainable financing and Public-Private-Partnership																	
Training needs assessment																	
Training and capacity building activities (including trainors' trainings) and putting in place fisheries resources management interventions and mechanisms																	
Training designs & EAFM curriculum																	
Registry of users of municipal waters																	
Network of MPA or fish sanctuary																	
Studies to support species specific or gear specific management																	
National database on EAFM																	
State of the marine resource report																	
Development of PPP portfolio																	
Establishment of private sector partnerships																	
Cost benefit analysis of LGUs fisheries management operations																	
Establishment of market-based instruments																	
Establishment of PES & other sustainable financing programs																	
Early fisheries management actions																	
Fisheries management actions from the Inter-LGU Management Plan																	
Inter-LGU Fisheries and Coastal Resources Management Planning																	
Revisit Inter-LGU Management. Plans																	

Figure 2. General Calendar of ECOFISH Activities and Interventions Highlighting the Year 4 Activities and Indicating the Period Covered by the Year 4 Semi-Annual Report.

4. Year 4 Semi-annual Accomplishments

Descriptions of the key activities/interventions and accomplishments under each of the 13 deliverables as of ECOFISH Project implementation are given below.

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

The focus of the policy support and capacity-building components for the first half of the Project was to build the foundation for working with government partners, primarily with BFAR at the national, regional, and provincial levels, as well as with the LGUs. This is to ensure that Project activities and outputs are aligned with the priorities of the partners and that they contribute significantly to national and local efforts to implement EAFM.

In Year 3, the Project began to focus on policy formulation at the municipal and MKBA levels, to help LGUs transition from early management interventions to EAFM. In Year 4, the Project will provide further support to implement national policies at the local level through complementary policies and ordinances, such as on BoatR and fisheries law enforcement.

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

Deliverable 1: Policy Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Conduct studies on EAFM policies and policy implementation in providing an enabling environment for EAFM				
Support for national level policies including: - Administrative adjudication procedures under the amendment of the Fisheries Code (RA 10654) - Seasonal closure of small pelagics in the VIP and for several species of roundscads in Palawan - Update of NFRDI research agenda (as requested by BFAR) - Update of CNFIDP (priority of BFAR for 2016)	O	O		
Support for preparation of local policies, as needed, on MSP, gear-/species-specific management, law enforcement, etc.	O	O		
Conduct policy forums with relevant stakeholder groups (climate change impact on fisheries, administrative adjudication, commercial fishing boat registration, FADs, closed seasons)				
Regional forum on seasonal closure for small pelagics in VIP - continuation/ expansion of " <i>Pagpapahinga</i> "	C			
Policy forum on administrative adjudication rules and procedures		O		
Conduct policy studies to integrate CTI themes, EAFM, MPAs, and climate change into existing policy instruments (climate smart MPA networks, resiliency of fishing livelihoods)				
Study on the impacts of the medium-term (2015-2020) seasonal closure for small pelagics in VIP: governance, socio-economic and biological aspects	O	O		
Conduct policy studies on revenue generation, sustainable financing, and PPPs to support sustainable fisheries management				
Study on Implementation mechanism for user fees in Siargao Protected Area	O	O		
Team Lead: Senior Governance and Institutional Development Specialist, Chief of Party Key Partners: BFAR, DA, DENR, DILG, NEDA, DTI, DOF, DOJ, DBM, LMP, NFR, NFARMC, commercial fishing sector				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments:

- ECOFISH provided technical support to BFAR in the preparation of the implementing rules and regulations of the Fisheries Code as amended by RA 10654 particularly on provisions

related to administrative adjudication. The IRR took effect on October 10, 2015. ECOFISH also prepared a user-friendly briefer on the new law and IRR.

- The project supported a Fisherfolk Summit in October 2015 and other regional forums to share information about the new regulations.
- At the request of BFAR, ECOFISH provided technical and facilitation support for the updating of the Comprehensive National Fisheries Industry Development Plan. More than 500 participants representing all sectors of the fisheries industry and local governments took part in the review and amendment process in successive workshops over three months. The updated CNFIDP was launched in February 3, 2016. At the launching event, BFAR gave USAID a plaque of appreciation for its continuing support to BFAR. The award was received by Mr. Michael Klecheski, Deputy Chief of Mission of the US Embassy.



Mr. Michael Klecheski (center), Deputy Chief of Mission of the US Embassy, joined DA Secretary Proceso Alcala, former DENR Secretary Angel Alcala, Senator Cynthia Villar, DA Undersecretary Asis Perez and more than 500 representatives from the fishing industry, local government units and civil society in pledging support for the implementation of the updated CNFIDP (2016-2020).

- The project held follow up forums and consultations in Batangas in January 2016 to assess the effectiveness of the seasonal closure on small pelagics in Balayan Bay (*Pagpapahinga ng Look ng Balayan*). The project will report on the overall impact of the program looking at the ecological, socio-economic and governance aspects. ECOFISH shared the lessons on the closed seasons at the Philippine Association of Marine Science conference in October 2015.
- ECOFISH continued consultations on proposals for user fees in Siargao protected area, where the overlaps among the PAMB, Province and LGUs can potentially complicate the collection system for the user fees.

- The project continues to provide local support for policy formulation and local legislation for partner LGUs to implement their marine spatial plans, fisherfolk, vessel and gear registration system, and resource use fees.

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

In Year 3, ECOFISH completed the draft LGU Start-Up Guide, which is intended to be a user-friendly, informative, and activity-oriented tool for LGUs that wish to implement EAFM. The Start-Up Guide targets LGUs that are just beginning to think about a strategic and sustainable program for managing fisheries and coastal resources. It guides the LGU through ten (10) activities that lead to the preparation of a simple and doable action plan for sustainable municipal fisheries. For Year 4, ECOFISH will publish the LGU Start-Up Guide, which will include a separate volume of useful toolkits to guide the implementation of key activities contained therein.

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

Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Develop the Municipal Fisheries Management Toolkit series (update Volume 1, develop additional volumes)				
EAFM Start-up Guide for LGUs developed, published and launched	O	O		
Develop municipal fisheries management toolkit to complement Start-Up Guide	O	O		
Develop case studies on the integration of CTI themes (EAFM, MPAs, and CCA) at the site level				
Develop case studies on the integration of CTI themes on EAFM, MPAs, and climate change at the site level (target is 2 MKBAs)	O	O		
Develop and produce Fishery Law Enforcement Procedural Handbook				
Finalization, testing and roll of the Fish Examiner’s Training Manual	O	O		
Produce fishery law enforcement instructional video				
Finalization, testing and roll out Fish Examiner’s Training video	O	O		
Team Lead: IEC Specialist, Senior Governance and Institutional Development Specialist, Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, Regulation and Enforcement Specialist, and MERF				
Key Partners: BFAR, DILG, PNP, LMP, university network, NFR				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments:

- The project has collated training materials and feedback from trainings on various aspects of fisheries management in order to come up with useful toolkits to complement the draft LGU Start-Up Guide. After the completion of the Toolkit volume, the Start-Up Guide can be

launched and tested in partner LGUs, particularly those that will have a new set of elected officials in June 2016.

- The fish examiner's manual and video are still in advanced development stage, after undergoing a peer review in February 2016.
- The draft Fish Examiners Manual has been completed and is now being reviewed by the Enforcement Consultant of ECOFISH. This training manual shall be subject to review and trial run this coming June of 2016. The target date of completion is on September of this year.

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

In Year 3, the protocol for data entry was finalized and the catch monitoring system harmonized with that of NSAP. The data collection system of NSAP (National Stock Assessment Program) is designed to capture both the commercial and municipal fishing operations while that of ECOFISH is focused on the municipal capture fisheries in the focal areas. The basic parameters being measured by both monitoring schemes are practically the same and ECOFISH’s fish catch data can easily be integrated into the NSAP database.

In the first half of Year 4 of project implementation, the team has develop an initial protocol for integrating identified EAFM related information coming from various fisheries management initiatives in the country. This consolidated set of information is intended to feed into the State of the Marine Resources Report (SMRR). The overall general principle being followed is for all the project databases to feed into the national database, and that the Project should not create its own customized database.

The project team finalized documents for ECOFISH’s assistance to augment BFAR’s data management capacity through special activity fund. This assistance is intended to support BFAR set in place the national database on EAFM, enhance BFAR’s capacity for acquiring and processing information from its previous regular programs - primarily data generated from FishR, BoatR, FLEMIS and PhilCatch, and expand the BFAR’s database system to incorporate NSAP field data and research studies and results of NFRDI, that together will in turn feed into the national database on EAFM and SMRR.

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

Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the 8 MKBAs				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Develop protocols for fish catch monitoring system to become part of the National Stock Assessment Program				
Finalize agreement on relevant sets of information with NSAP and incorporate into the National Database and SMRR	O	O		

Conduct training on the national database system				
Conduct training on the national EAFM database with national and MKBA partners	O	O		
Team Lead: Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, GIS-KIM Specialist, Senior Resource Economics Specialist, Regulatory and Enforcement Specialist, MERF Key Partners: BFAR, DILG, LMP, DENR				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments:

- Finalized agreement with BFAR’s Fisheries and Information Management System (FIMS) team regarding the elements of ECOFISH’s assistance to augment its data management capacity through special activity fund.
- Finalized elements of data management package and technical support towards establishment of protocols for management of fisheries data including FishR, BoatR, FLEMIS, PhilCatch and NSAP.
- Developed initial design for the conduct training on the national EAFM database with national and MKBA partners to be tested during the second half of Year 4.

4.4. Deliverable 4: State of the Marine Resources Report

In Year 3 ECOFISH, through MERF, conducted review sessions and workshops with partners to draft various sections of the State of the Marine Resource Report and came up with the first consolidated draft. In collaboration with NSAP, ECOFISH conducted a training of data analysts of NSAP to revisit and standardize procedures for estimation of fish population parameters and status of fish stocks. These sets of information already form part of the SMRR and are intended to be updated on a regular basis. In the first half of Year 4, MERF finalized the draft and is now ready for review, final approval, and adoption by partners.

Deliverable 4: State of the Marine Resources Report				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Prepare State of the Marine Resources Report				
Conduct sessions with the national partners to discuss and agree on the adoption and regular updating of the report	O	O		
Team Lead: Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, GIS-KIM Specialist, Senior Resource Economics Specialist, Regulatory and Enforcement Specialist, MERF Key Partners: BFAR, DENR, LMP, university network, WWF				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments:

- Final draft of the State of the Marine Resources Report submitted by MERF for final approval and adoption by partners

Activities not accomplished and why:

- Final workshop for presentation to partners, co-authors, and stakeholders was put on hold due to national election in May 2016. The team decided to conduct the workshop around July 2016 for partner agencies to settle after the national election.

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

For Year 4, ECOFISH will continue the delivery of trainings on socio-economic and biological assessments, constituency building and conflict management, MPA networks, boat and gear registration systems, law enforcement, fish examiners, local legislation, administrative adjudication, and marine spatial planning. These trainings are important in building the foundations for EAFM. The overarching objective of the trainings is to help LGUs transition from the success of its early management interventions into a comprehensive EAFM program. In Year 4, the team will likewise commence with the initiative and training program for LGUs in selected focal areas on the right-sizing of fishing effort.

ECOFISH has adapted the Essential EAFM Training Course developed by NOAA, CTI and others, for use in the Philippines. The Philippine version of the training course will include specific Philippine context and examples, as well as a more detailed output of the EAFM plan for use by local government units supported by BFAR.

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

Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Develop a national training curriculum (EAFM Training Course for the Philippines)				
Finalize and publish EAFM Training Curriculum for the Philippines	O	O		
Develop or refine training courses				
Finalize and publish training courses (integrated into the Training Curriculum)	O	O		
Deliver training courses for national government, LGUs, NGOs, and university network in MKBAs (at least 4/MKBA)				
Deliver training courses for national government, LGUs, NGOs, and university networks (in at least 4 MKBAs) including socio-economic and biological monitoring assessments, constituency building/conflict management, MPA networks, boat/gear registration systems, law enforcement, fish examiner, local legislation/administrative adjudication, marine spatial planning	O	O		

Conduct training series for National Quick Response Team on fishery law enforcement				
Conduct training series for National Quick Response Team on fishery law enforcement in general and specific fish examiner trainer's training	O	O		
Conduct training series for MKBA Quick Response Team on fishery law enforcement				
Conduct training series for MKBA Quick Response Team on fishery law enforcement, fish examiner's training, basic/advance law enforcement)	O	O		
Team Lead: Senior Governance and Institutional Development Specialist, IEC Specialist, Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, Regulatory and Enforcement Specialist Key Partners: BFAR, DENR, PCG, PNP, NFARMC and LMP				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments:

- At the request of BFAR, NOAA is conducting a series of Essential EAFM Training Course trainings in April for all BFAR provincial fishery officials. ECOFISH worked with NOAA to adapt the training course for use in the Philippines by incorporating Philippine context and examples. The revised materials will be further developed after the trainings and launched in tandem with the LGU Start-up Guide.
- The entire team conducted training courses for national government, LGUs, NGOs, and university networks that include socio-economic and biological monitoring assessments, constituency building, conflict management, MPA networks, boat and gear registration systems, law enforcement, fish examiner, local legislation, administrative adjudication, and marine spatial planning. The thematic focus of the training and their corresponding frequencies (number) conducted during the reporting period are as follow:

Thematic Focus	Number
Fisheries Assessment	2
Coastal Law Enforcement	8
EAFM Training	1
Social Enterprise Development	2
Fisheries Resource Management	1
Governance and Institutional Development	2
Marine Protected Area	4
Marine Spatial Planning	2
Public-Private Partnership (Community Partnership)	3
Total	25

- During the first half of Year 4 several enforcement trainings and workshops were conducted in the project sites. In Surigao MKBA, levels 1, 2 and 3 trainings for members of the Quick Response Team (QRT) of BFAR Caraga Region were conducted. The enforcement trainings in Surigao prompted the discussion on the formation of the Anti-Illegal Fishing Task Force. The enforcement training in Lingayen has provided venue to review the Executive Order for the La Union Bay Watch.

- In Calamianes Island Group MKBA, the Paralegal Training led to the operation of the fishery law enforcers that resulted to the arrest of illegal fishers and the confiscation of their boats.
- The LGU of Prieto Diaz, Sorsogon requested the assistance of ECOFISH in providing resource persons during the Training on Fishery Law Enforcement for their new Bantay Dagat members and selected PNP members. The participants were deputized by the Mayor after the training.
- In preparation to the fishery law enforcement training in Northern Samar, ECOFISH have coordinated with the PNP for the Leahy Vetting process that shall be participated by their selected personnel assigned in the municipalities of Biri, Capul and San Vicente.
- ECOFISH also provided inputs during the 2-day Regional Orientation-Seminar on the establishment of Police Environment Desk Office (PEDO) in Region 5.

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

The Public-Private Partnership (PPP) component of the project focused on the remainder of its target PPPs, continued implementing and sustaining ongoing strategic partnerships as well as concluding a number of partnerships. The team also rolled out community partnership to support enterprise development in selected sites.

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

Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established					
Project Intervention/Activity	2016				
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Develop portfolio of PPPs					
Execute at least eight (8) strategic partnerships	O	C			
Consolidate the PPP strategy and enterprise development strategy	O	C			
Continue providing technical support to ongoing strategic and community partnerships	O	C			
Establish private sector partnerships					
Develop at least twenty (100) community partnerships	O	O			
Conduct scoping/diagnostics, trainings, Grassroot Participatory Budgetting Process support and formalization	O	C			
Provided support for enterprise development	O	O			
Team Lead : SSG Advisors Partnership Specialist, SSG Advisors Community Partnership Specialist					
Key Partners: BFAR, private sector, LGUs					

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments:

- USAID through the ECOFISH Project and its partners DOST-ICT Office and Microsoft are awarded the 2015 P3 Impact Award for its “TV White Space Supported Fisherfolk

Registration” Partnership. Hosted by the United States Department of State, Concordia, and the University of Virginia Darden School of Business, the partnership bested over 20 other partnerships and was recognized for its innovation in addressing a problem in fisheries management—fisherfolk registration in remote areas—through the use of technology.

- The “Species Specific Assessment and Pilot of the Spawning Potential Ratio Method Towards the Sustainable Management of Blue Swimming Crab” partnership between the Province of Bohol, the Philippine Association of Crab Processors, Inc. (PACPI) and ECOFISH leveraged the gains from the positive result of the assessment with the support of BFAR Region 7 towards further training on sustainable blue swimming crab management practices. In February 2016, 17 holding cages for berried blue swimming crabs have been set-up under the partnership and as a spin-off, BFAR, PACPI and the LGUs are now exploring a pilot gear swap as a means to consolidate and improve gains made in managing blue swimming crabs
- An enhanced version of the 700DALOY was commissioned and prototyped by SMART according to the specifications requested by the PNP-MG and proposed changes from feedback by the users. A soft launch was held at the PNP Regional Maritime Unit 11, on March 15, 2016 with USAID Philippines Mission Director Dr. Susan Brems as guest of honor. 700DALOY is also identified as a finalist for the USAID RDMA “Harnessing Data for Resiliency” Award.
- Recognizing the need for BFAR to establish a comprehensive national system for organizing several databases for fisheries related information, the BFAR-Fisheries Information Management Center (FIMC) teamed up with ECOFISH for a tie-up and collaboration. In the 3rd quarter of 2015, BFAR-FIMC and ECOFISH co-designed a data management capacity package, complete with technical specifications on hardware, software, and basic data management protocols towards consolidating FishR, BoatR, FLEMIS and PhilCatch databases under an EAFM database. As of March 2016, ECOFISH started the selection process for bidders for the SAF and will choose one IT provider out of 3 applicants, where a PPP will also be established between the provider and BFAR to extend discounts, favorable warranties, maintenance arrangements, and technical support for assessing and developing the standard data management protocols and capacity for BFAR-FIMC.
- A meeting was held on between ECOFISH and the USAID RDMA Oceans project to discuss potential collaboration to leverage the upcoming EAFM database for its ongoing work to support the establishment a Catch Documentation and Traceability System (CDTS) that is compliant to the ASEAN CDTS and draft US regulation on Seafood Importation Monitoring.
- A partnership was developed between and ECOFISH and PEMSEA towards conducting MSP for Batangas Province—a priority site with major investments for both groups. On March 14, 2016, a writeshop was organized in Batangas City to commence the process of jointly updating the MSP training manual as well as provide new case studies for the deployment of MSP trainings in Batangas Province.
- Two students have been deployed to the Calamianes and the Verde Island Passage with selected community partners for immersion and capacity building programs. Since then, training modules have been developed and the beneficiaries have delivered key documents and plans that are now being executed as a means to develop social enterprises.
- ECOFISH works with the Tagbanua Tribes of Coron Island and the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) to develop a social enterprise centered on its natural assets including ecotourism and natural product development. Efforts are on going to mobilize

community partners and mentor them with business skills are now being elevated to a prospective value chain partnership with SEKAYA to assist in testing natural products with medicinal value. A joint team lead by ECOFISH and the municipality of Linapacan conducted community consultations for the mobilization of the project and the FPIC application across the three pilot barangays of Iloc, Calibangbangan and Pical.

- Conducted a series of organizational diagnosis and capacity building activities in support of training existing people’s organizations as well as social enterprise candidates within the Lingayen Gulf, and San Bernardino, as well as further consolidation activities for community partners in Calamianes and Verde Island Passage.
- Secured 103 letters of commitment from 103 community partners overall engaged and capacitated by the PPP team of the ECOFISH Project.

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

Monitoring events were conducted in Year 3. In Year 4, results of these assessments are being communicated to partners, particularly at the local level. Fisheries, socioeconomic, MPA, enforcement, and governance baseline information are being integrated into the fisheries profiles of each MKBA.

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

Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Conduct socio-economic monitoring				
Feedback of socioeconomic monitoring results to NGAs and LGUs in respective MKBAs for use as inputs to plans, policies and guidance to stakeholders	O	O		
Use results for refining establishment of social enterprises and other socio-economic interventions of the Project	O	O		
Team Lead: Regulatory and Enforcement Specialist, Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, Senior Governance and Institutional Development Specialist. Key Partners: BFAR, LMP, MKBA LGUs				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments:

- Around 20,000 catch and effort data were collected in the focal areas of the 8 MKBAs during the year 3 (2015) monitoring event. The data will be used to estimate catch rates but also include other information such as catch composition and relative sizes of abundant species.
- Reef fish biomass, coral cover and species richness data were also collected in more than 240 sampling stations in MPAs predetermined during the baseline assessment conducted in 2013

- 4,727 households interviewed from the 8 MKBAs in Year 1 were revisited and interviewed again to establish trends for socio-economic parameters and update profiles of fishing households.
- Summary tables and figures by MKBA were prepared and, together with enforcement and governance parameters, are now being reported back to the LGUs and partners for use in updating their FRM plans and in formulating their marine spatial plans.
- The fisheries, MPA, socioeconomic and enforcement monitoring data are also being used as inputs to other project activities and interventions in the various MKBAs.
- ECOFISH facilitated the enforcement assessment and Operation Plan workshop of the Batangas Environmental Response Team (BERT) last November 23-27, 2015. The objective of the enforcement assessment was to determine the capability of the BERT in terms of logistics, skills, strength and availability of resources of each member.

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

In Year 4, the project is currently refining the MSP tool by including net economic values as part of the considerations in prioritizing spatially overlapping and conflicting uses. Direct use values for each type of zone allowed in the various Marine Spatial Plans are being estimated. Data for most MKBAs has been collected, and estimated economic values are now being calculated, for validation and presentation to LGUs in the succeeding months.

Results of the value chain studies are currently being presented to various LGUs and partners across the 8 MKBAs. In some instances, results are being utilized for the establishment of social enterprises in selected communities, e.g. sea cucumber ranching in CIG and mud crab fattening in Surigao del Norte. In other instances, results are being utilized by other stakeholders, like the blue crab fisheries in Danajon Reef, tuna production in Negros, and lawlaw sardines in San Bernardino Strait.

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

Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Determine economic values and perform cost-benefit analysis in MKBA focal area LGUs (same as in Deliverable 12)				
Collect baseline information on CRM revenues and expenditures per LGU.	O	O		
Refine MSP criteria to include net economic values of various uses	O	O		
Present results of value chain studies for each MKBA	O	O		
Use results for further work on policy and/or enterprise development	O	O		
Team Lead: Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, MERF, Senior Resource Economics Specialist Key Partners: BFAR, SEAFDEC, University network (SAF may be used to support these institutions)				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments:

- The MSP tool is now being refined to include a layer of economic valuation. Data gathering for direct use values is now almost complete.
- Value chain results have been shared with most MKBAs. Some results are now feeding into other project interventions such as enterprise development and policy development.
- ECOFISH technical team trained local partners in gathering and analysis of required scientific information to arrive at appropriate management recommendations on the appropriate use and management beach seine operation in Southern Negros MKBA.
- Catch and gonad development monitoring of “lawlaw” (*Sardinella lemuru*), the species selected for scientific study, in fish landings in San Vicente, Bulan and Pilar, has been extended due to the continued presence of gravid individuals.

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

In Year 3, ECOFISH through MERF, has completed the dispersal models for the other 4 MKBAs and preparation for the conduct of hydrodynamic and dispersal modeling for the focal area for Surigao del Norte MKBA is underway. The focal area in this MKBA was moved from Lanuza Bay in Surigao del Sur to the alliance of LGUs in Surigao del Norte as requested by BFAR Caraga Region.

Focus on the design of the MPA networks that will incorporate climate change adaptation schemes and mitigation strategies to risks brought about by destructive fishing and pollution has started in Year 4. In November 2015 ECOFISH field staff and selected local partners underwent a training workshop conducted by MERF and UPMSI to learn MPA network design concepts, understand ecological principles governing MPAs and MPA network designs, and apply the concepts and principles to ECOFISH site conditions.

The team decided to develop a case study to demonstrate the application of ecological, social, and governance principles to MPA and network of MPA designing process. The Danjon Reef MPA network was chosen as the pilot study area and a two-day training workshop was conducted with local partners in March 2016.

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

Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Conduct hydrodynamic study and dispersal modeling				
Conduct hydrodynamic study and dispersal models for the focal area of Surigao del Norte	O	O		
Develop MPA network design (includes climate change adaptation strategies)				

Training (trainers' training) of site teams in MPA network design incorporating climate change adaptation schemes and mitigation strategies to risks brought about by destructive fishing and pollution	C			
Training of local partners in the MKBAs in MPA network design incorporating climate change adaptation schemes and mitigation strategies to risks brought about by destructive fishing and pollution	O	O		
Establish MPA network in new MKBAs				
Conduct partner consultations and meetings to set up component MPAs as part of the network with focus on municipalities in the focal area of San Bernardino Strait and expanded focal area in Tawi-Tawi	O	O		
Develop plan to implement component MPAs including tasking, and financing	O	O		
Strengthen MPA networks in existing MKBA focal areas				
Develop customized capacity building program for MPA networks to promote compliance and enforce regulations (continuing activities).	O	O		
Team Lead: GIS-KIM Specialist, Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, MERF Key Partners: BFAR, University network (SAF may be used to support local colleges)				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments:

- Training workshop conducted by MERF and UPMSI to introduce the MPA network design concepts, discussed ecological principles governing MPAs and MPA network designs, and apply the concepts and principles to ECOFISH site conditions.
- The MPA team, supported by Dr. Kitty Courtney, developed a case study to demonstrate the application of ecological, social, and governance principles to MPA and network of MPA designing process. The case study involved a tabletop geospatial analysis, a workshop to test the methodology, and documentation of the process and results. A standard guide or manual is currently being developed for use in other focal ecosystems of the ECOFISH Project and projects of interested institutions.
- A total of six (6) Marine Protected Area (MPA) Guards trainings were conducted from December 2015 to February 2016 in the following projects sites: Calamianes Island Group, Lingayen, Surigao del Norte, and Southern Negros. The MPA Guard trainings have provided the participants with knowledge and strategies on how to effectively protect their respective marine protected areas.

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

In Year 3, the project team accomplished inter-LGU fisheries management planning to cover majority of focal areas of the eight MKBAs. The planning workshops were conducted during the feed-backing of baseline assessment results to partners. The team facilitated the identification of inter-LGU fisheries management initiatives and individual LGUs' specific coastal resources management initiatives with the baseline assessment results as foundation for planning. These

then formed the backbone of the Fisheries Management Plans of the Inter-LGU Alliances. Soon after, the Inter-LGU Fisheries Management Plans for the cluster of municipalities constituting the focal areas of 5 MKBAs were drafted.

The inter-LGU FRM planning was done in parallel with the establishment and strengthening of the inter-LGU enforcement teams, including the strengthening of their regulatory and compliance capabilities. To consolidate the various efforts, ECOFISH continued to assist these clusters of LGUs in developing their water and fisheries use zoning plans through Marine Spatial Planning. In the first half of Year 4 the team developed the design for right-sizing of fishing effort. Orientation and consultation workshops with selected LGU clusters will be initiated in second half of Year 4 to establish their fishing effort configurations, following a series of LGU and stakeholder consultations. These will be further incorporated into their respective plans.

In Year 4, ECOFISH focused only in inter-LGU activities particularly in the field of capacity building in compliance and enforcement of fishery laws. This included capacity building activities for the BFAR Quick Response Teams at the national and regional levels.

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

Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Conduct integrated coastal and fisheries management planning for cluster of municipalities or LGU alliances				
Continue activities to revive or strengthen inter-LGU CFRM initiatives in the 8 MKBAs	O	O		
Continue inter-LGU planning process to cover all focal areas in the 8 MKBAs	O	O		
Provide technical support in the establishment of coastal and fisheries law enforcement teams (new sites)				
Conduct courses on fishery law enforcement as step in establishing enforcement teams and inter-LGU enforcement teams	O	O		
Provide technical support to strengthen coastal and fisheries law enforcement teams (former FISH sites)				
Continue the conduct of courses on fishery law enforcement as step in strengthening enforcement teams and inter-LGU enforcement teams	O	O		
Build/strengthen inter-LGU regulatory compliance and enforcement capabilities				
Establish or strengthen inter-LGU enforcement arrangements	O	O		
Conduct joint operations planning for cluster or alliance of LGUs	O	O		
Develop marine spatial zoning plan				
Assist cluster of LGUs in reviving, updating or strengthening of zoning plans (in FISH Project sites)	O	O		

Assist cluster of LGUs in developing the marine spatial zoning plan (in the rest of the other sites)	O	O		
Establish appropriate fishing effort configuration for focal areas in the MKBAs				
Consultation with focal area LGUs on the appropriate fishing effort configuration for focal areas of at least two MKBAs				
Utilize registration and licensing information in managing fishing effort (integrated into the management plans)				
Consultation with focal area LGUs on use of registration and licensing information in managing fishing effort				
Team Lead: DCOP for Operation, Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Specialist, Regulation and Enforcement Specialist				
Key Partners: BFAR regional and provincial offices, provincial governments and PNP				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments:

- ECOFISH completed the Inter-LGU Fisheries Management Plans (IFRM) for the LGU alliance of South Negros, the focal area municipalities in Surigao del Norte, Bohol municipalities of Danajon Reef and the Calamianes Island Group municipalities. The IFRM Plans for VIP and Lingayen Gulf is in preparation
- In Tawi-Tawi, ECOFISH has provided support to the provincial government in convening the members of Tawi-Tawi Illegal Fishing Task Force headed by Governor Nurbert Sahali. During meeting, Gov. Sahali proposed the inclusion of other concerned government agencies and academe in the task force and asked the assistance of ECOFISH to provide the members of the task force with skills trainings related to fishery law enforcement.
- ECOFISH was given the tasked by the Technical Working Group (TWG) of Sorsogon in convening and strengthening the IFARMC in the Pacific Side covering the municipalities of Prieto Diaz, Gubat, Bulusan, Sta. Magdalena, Matnog and Bulan. Initial conversation with the mayors of Prieto Diaz and Sta. Magdalena has been done wherein their assistance has been requested in order to convene the members of the Pacific Side IFARMC.
- The LGU of Del Carmen requested the assistance of ECOFISH in the conduct of a round-table-discussion (RTD) to find solution that will address the issue on danish seine or *liba-liba* operating in the municipal waters. Danish seine is prohibited under Republic Act No. 8550 otherwise known as the Fisheries Code of the Philippines. The RTD was participated by representatives from the LGU of Del Carmen, Provincial Agriculturist Office, MFARMCs, NGO, PNP PPO, PNP MG, Coast Guard and the members of QRT BFAR Caraga Region.
- ECOFISH also provided technical assistance to the La Union Baywatch during the review and approval of the final draft of the Executive Order.

Unplanned activities:

- ECOFISH in collaboration with the PNP MG conducted the first PNP MG – NGO Dialogue last March 17, 2016 at Camp Crame. This activity was participated by representatives from 9 environment and fisheries NGOs. The dialogue was aimed towards a collaboration between PNP MG and NGOs in protecting the fisheries and coastal marine resources.

- Through the Special Activity Fund (SAF) and in conjunction with the Philippine Judicial Academy (PHILJA) and National Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee (NALECC), ECOFISH engaged the services of the Environmental Law Alliance Center (ELAC) in the revision of their publication Mending Nets.

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

In Year 3, ECOFISH provided support to BFAR in developing a national program for boat and gear registration to complement the earlier program on fisherfolk registration. In Year 4, ECOFISH continued to support BFAR in rolling out the implementation of BoatR, including the conduct of trainings in the Project’s MKBAs. ECOFISH likewise continue to provide assistance to LGUs that wish to develop new or updated fisheries management ordinances to include provisions on fisheries registration and licensing that complements the BFAR programs.

ECOFISH continued to provide support for implementation of FishR in project MKBAs. This included regular monitoring of the progress of partner LGUs in registering fisherfolk in their area, sending feedback to BFAR in case of problems.

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

Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Registration and licensing training, and drafting of ordinance				
Registration and licensing training and drafting of municipal ordinances to enable LGUs implement and support FishR and BoatR.				
Registration systems component of national database developed and deployed to LGUs				
Develop data acquisition and retrieval system for LGUs to make use of the information generated from FishR and BoatR.				
Training on use of registration system in each MKBA for management				
Training on the use of registration system (FishR and BoatR) in each MKBA for use in the management of the fisheries.				
Team Lead: Regulatory and Enforcement Specialist, Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, Senior Governance and Institutional Development Specialist. Key Partners: BFAR, LMP, MKBA LGUs				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments:

- Registration and licensing provisions have been incorporated in ordinances passed and in proposed ordinances of LGU partners in the project MKBAs. Many other LGUs in the former FISH project sites also have ordinances on fisher and fishing boat registration and several LGUs in the ECOFISH sites already have provisions on registration and licensing in

their existing ordinances. Therefore, there is no need to propose ordinances for registration and licensing in these LGUs, as originally indicated in the workplan.

- ECOFISH decided to defer a complementary effort to develop a separate boat and gear registration system for LGUs when BFAR planned to launch a boat and gear registration program. To support the initiative, the team provided technical support in developing the system and provided technical assistance by serving as resource persons in BoatR trainings in the MKBAs.

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

Results of WTP studies in CIG and South Negros were presented to LGUs and other stakeholders. Local ordinances establishing user fees are now being drafted to incorporate the results of the studies. In Alaminos and Northern Samar, WTP studies were set up and are currently being implemented.

For the special case of the ancestral domain of the Tagbanuas in Coron Island, the project is continuing to provide technical assistance in drafting their business plan for their tourist attractions located inside their ancestral domain. Financial processes have now been documented, and strategic plans have been formulated. The actual business plan will be drafted in the next quarter. Another special case is in Siargao Island of the Surigao del Norte MKBA, wherein user fees recommended by the project will be implemented by the Protected Area Management Bureau (PAMB) of Siargao Protected Landscape.

FGDs for establishing or updating auxiliary invoice taxes were conducted among Lingayen Gulf LGUs, while schedules for other MKBAs are forthcoming within the year. For LGUs with existing ordinances, collection and disbursement schemes are being assessed, particularly whether the unit amounts are appropriately determined so that they will result in revenues, whether revenues are being collected efficiently, and whether collections are being used to fund fisheries management.

The assistance currently provided for increasing fisherfolk access to Bottom-Up-Budgeting funds has resulted in a number of local projects related to sustainable fisheries management being approved and implemented. Most of the data requirements of the cost-benefit analysis on fisheries management operations has been collected. Results will be analyzed and will feed into the refinement of the MSP tool (see Deliverable 8).

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

Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs				
Project Intervention/Activity	2015			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Cost-benefit analysis of LGU operations involved in fisheries management				

Tease out revenues and expenditures directly attributed to fisheries management for all focal LGUs	O	O		
Institute market-based financing instruments				
Enhance user fee schemes in TTCIA CADT in Coron	O	O		
Set up user fee schemes and local ordinances for South Negros, Siargao and Calamianes Island Group	O	O		
Conduct valuation studies for San Bernardino Strait and Lingayen Gulf	O	O		
Assess and/or establish auxiliary invoice taxes in other focal LGUs where tourist entrance fees are not viable	O	O		
Facilitate larger access to national government budgets through BuB				
Coordinate with BuB process at the local level	O	O		
Liaise with national government agencies involved in the BuB process.	O	O		
Link BuB proposals with IFRM business plans	O	O		
Team Lead: Senior Resource Economist, REECS, and SSG				
Key Partners: BFAR, LMP, LPP, LGUs				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments:

- Tourism user fees are now being translated into ordinances in CIG, Siargao and South Negros.
- WTP studies are being conducted in Lingayen Gulf and San Bernardino Strait.
- FGDs on auxiliary income taxes were conducted in Lingayen Gulf.
- TTCIA financial processes and business strategies have been documented and drafted.
- A number of BuB proposals have been influenced to contribute to sustainable fisheries management.

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

Enterprise development work is now being implemented in four MKBAs, namely South Negros, Surigao del Norte and the VIP and the CIG. SAF is being used to support enterprise development in three MKBAs: South Negros, VIP and CIG. For Surigao del Norte, the project is working on the establishment of social enterprises, but is not funding a partner NGO for this work. Instead, a community organizer has been hired, and other private and public partners are being sought out to fund most of the training, skills transfer, and capital outlay. Social preparation has been conducted in all of these sites, and for Negros and VIP, business plans have been completed. For CIG, piloting of certain enterprises has commenced, i.e. sea cucumber ranching. For Surigao, continuous coordination with PCA and BFAR is being undertaken.

Scoping for potential enterprises has been completed for San Bernardino, Lingayen Gulf and Tawi-Tawi. For Danajon Reef, the SAF call for proposals has been completed, and administrative arrangements are now being conducted for the awarding of the project.

Similar to the Bravo Awards in VIP, MKBA Awards have been set up in CIG, South Negros and Surigao del Norte. SEAT is now being used as part of the criteria, along with MEAT. Actual awarding of best MPAs are scheduled towards the 4th quarter of 2016. In Tawi-Tawi and Danajon Reef, awards will be set up in the next quarter. For Lingayen Gulf and San Bernardino, given that there are not enough MPAs in the area, recognition and assessment workshops will be conducted towards the end of the fiscal year.

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

Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Project Intervention/Activity	2015			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Translate IFRM Plans into business plans				
Conduct business planning workshops to translate 4 IFRM Plans	O	O		
Provide inputs for the formulation of IFRM plans for 4 MKBAs	O	O		
Enterprise Development				
Link up/coordinate with interested partners from the private sector and/or NGOs in setting up the enterprise and community organizing work in 4 MKBAs (Danajon Reef, San Bernardino Strait, Sulu Archipelago and Lingayen Gulf)	O	O		
Link up with DSWD-SLP and other national government agencies for various stages in enterprise development	O	O		
Continue social preparation work in 4 MKBAs (South Negros, Surigao del Norte, VIP and CIG)	O	O		
Provide technical and administrative support in setting up the social enterprises, and tie up enterprise development work with other components of the Project	O	O		
Development of Inter-LGU Trust Funds				
Hold policy discussions with DBM, NAPC, DILG, etc. to develop Trust Fund for fisheries management	O	O		
Capitalization of Coastal Adaptation Funds				
Develop SEAT and pilot test in VIP	C			
Set up awards in 3 MKBAs: South Negros, Surigao del Norte, CIG	O	O		
Scope for implementation of SEAT in Lingayen Gulf	O	O		
Scope for private sector partners for the sustainability of MKBA awards	O	O		
Establish PES Schemes				
Document the Seasonal Closure in Balayan Bay as a modified PES scheme	C			
Set up Seasonal Closure in San Bernardino Strait as a modified PES scheme	O	O		
Design and establish feasibility of Development Impact Bonds in at least 2 MKBAs	O	O		
Team Lead: Senior Resource Economics Specialist, REECS, and SSG				
Key Partners: BFAR, LGUs, Private Sector				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments:

- Social preparation is vigorously being pursued in CIG, South Negros, VIP, and Surigao del Norte for the development of social enterprises. Continuous coordination with private and public partners for skills transfer and funding support are likewise being undertaken in these four MKBAs.
- Scoping for potential enterprises has been completed in Tawi-Tawi, San Bernardino, Lingayen Gulf and Danajon Reef.
- MKBA Awards have been set up in 4 MKBAs. SEAT is now being used as part of the criteria along with MEAT.

5. Site-Level Semi-Annual Accomplishments

5.1. Calamianes Island Group MKBA

For the first half of year 4, the Project continued its activities in strengthening existing MPAs and MPA Network through technical coaching, training, meetings, and actual field mentoring. The Project also supported MPAs, fisheries management, and CRM interventions in the MKBA through promotion of incentive program. In addition, Special Activity funds have been awarded to partners to assist the project in strengthening the Calamianes Group of Islands MPA Network, establishment of additional MPAs, and support the enterprise development programs with gender responsive mechanisms. Three major enterprises, sea cucumber ranching, mudcrab fattening culture and ecotourism cultural village, are currently being implemented in the site.

For this reporting period, the project team continued its productive relationships with national and local governments to generate political and financial support through confidence building measures. It also prioritized policy development and work towards refinement and approval of an inter-LGU Marine Spatial Plan to provide mechanisms for rationalizing sea use and access through licenses and permits. Technical advice and trainings were provided to Tagbanua cultural community and community partners as part of the mentorship for enterprise development.

The table below summarizes the status of (O-ongoing; C-completed) of interventions and activities in the Calamianes Island Group MKBA under the various deliverables.

Calamianes Island Group MKBA				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Deliverable 1: Policy Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change				
Support the presentation of relevant draft resolutions/ordinances to FARMC and SBs.	O	C		
Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA				

Support the identification and writing of at least two (2) case studies demonstrating a best practice, issue or challenge related to EAFM, MPA, climate change .	O	O		
Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the 8 MKBAs				
Conduct benchmarking exercises with LGUs	O	O		
Conduct benchmark validation activities	O	O		
Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted				
Support the conduct of paralegal training	C			
Support the provision of technical and legal assistance to local law enforcement teams mentoring	O	O		
Support the conduct of PCRA training involving 10 MPAs through Special Activities Fund.	O	O		
Support the conduct of training on information, education communication, social marketing and media relations	O	O		
Support the conduct of operation planning workshops and follow up meetings	O	O		
Support the building capacity of MPA guards through training and coaching activities	C			
Conduct continuous vetting of prospective trainees from the PNP, PCG and Philippine Navy under the Leahy Vetting	O	O		
Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established				
Support the conduct of financial management training in Culion, Busuanga and Coron including the Tagbanua	O	C		
Provide technical assistance and advice to POs for them to implement environment-friendly livelihood projects from SLP and BuB	O	O		
Provide technical assistance in mangrove assessment and reforestation in Culion and Coron (TTCIA)	C			
Support the conduct of team building, networking and advocacy training in Culion, Busuanga and Coron (including Tagbanua)	O	C		
Support the conduct of training on negotiation and conflict management in Culion, Busuanga and Coron (including Tagbanua)	O	O		
Support the popularization of 700 DALOY and the installation of a public reporting system including monitoring its progress	O	O		
Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs				
Support the conduct of fish catch monitoring in Linapacan	O	O		
Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species				
Facilitate the revisit and revival of Siganids fisheries management (initiated during FISH project)	O	O		
Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs				
Assist in providing technical assistance, coaching and mentoring for the administration of MEAT	O	C		
Organize training on MPA baseline assessment and actual assessment for non-priority MPAs	O	O		
Provide technical assistance in the reconfiguration and expansion of MPAs in Coron	C			

Explore that possibility of expanding and establishment of MPAs	O	O		
Build the capacity of the local government to support the information, education and communication needs of the MPAs under their jurisdiction	O	O		
Support the conduct of activities leading to organizational development of MPA management bodies/councils and MPA networks through meetings, workshops and the like	O	O		
Facilitate the refinement of CMN management plan	O	O		
Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs				
Support the review and/or amendment of fishery ordinances of 2 municipalities	O	C		
Support activities leading to the review, refinement and approval of the Marine Spatial Plan, incorporating the newly-specified economic criteria (net economic values)	O	O		
Provide support in activities leading to the strengthening of enforcement teams of the focal LGUs through training, meetings and the like	O	O		
Identify a service provider under SAF to provide technical and/or legal support to strengthen the municipal teams and monitor progress of implementation	O	C		
Organize orientation workshop on right-sizing of fishing effort and subsequent consultations	O	O		
Organize updating meetings, workshops for key stakeholders and partners such as BFAR, LGUs, PNP and others to ensure continuity of efforts across different political administrations	O	O		
Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Facilitate the collection of relevant data relative to BoatR and FishR	O	C		
Support the activities such as meeting and trainings leading to the use of BoatR and FishR in licensing system	O	O		
Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs				
Coordinate meetings with local officials, POs, local NGOs, and other stakeholders in preparation for the workshop and consultation on revenue generation system	C			
Provide technical and administrative assistance in the development of TTCIA user fee scheme	O	C		
Provide technical and administrative assistance in the development of resort development fees in Busuanga, Culion and Linapacan	O	O		
Support the presentation of willingness-to-pay survey to LGUs	C			
Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Organize business planning workshop focusing on the translation of Calamianes Inter-LGU Fisheries Management Plan (CIFMP) into business plans	O	O		
Support the conduct of market planning workshop	O	O		

Support the conduct of ecotourism training in Coron-Siete Pecados (tour guiding, food preparation & souvenir making)	O	O		
Develop an incentive program for the MPA network	O	C		

Highlights of key site-level activities/accomplishments:

- Organized and facilitated the Documentation of Tagbanua Tribe of Coron Island Association (TTCIA) Financial Management System on October 5-6, 2015. The workshop was part of a previous request by the TTCIA to help them better manage their revenues from entrance fees collected from tourist attractions located within their ancestral domain.



Libarra Maglicante, TTCIA Vice Chairman, documenting the financial process being practiced by the organization.

- The activity was followed by a strategic planning workshop conducted on February 17-18, 2016 which was intended to provide the participants with Strategic Planning strategy that will empower them to best help their organization. The workshop gave emphasis on the role of financial management, land-use management, development of the Cultural Village of Coron Island and other new tourist sites, and the maintenance of existing sites to strategically plan for its future. The Strategic Plan output will later be used in the development of a business plan for the TTCIA. The said activities were part of the Mentorship for Enterprise Development program of the project in partnership with Asian Institute Management (AIM). ECOFISH was working very closely with the AIM student mentors not only to design their terms of reference to be tailored to the social enterprise needs of key ECOFISH sites and partners, but also to provide them with technical and logistical support to complete their deliverables.
- ECOFISH Project provided legal assistance to the LGU of Coron in the drafting of municipal fishery ordinance. Several consultations with fishers were conducted to provide relevant inputs to the ordinance.
- The site team participated in the training on M&E of Bottom-up Budgeting (BuB) Projects on October 16, 2015. The BuB is an approach to prepare the budget proposal of agencies funded by the national budget, taking into consideration the development needs of poor municipalities with strong participation of basic sector and other civil society organizations. After the training, ECOFISH was selected as team leader for the monitoring of BuB projects in Coron and Linapacan on October 21, 2015 and November 3-5, 2015.
- Attended the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) Assembly meetings in Busuanga and Linapacan on October 23, 2015 and November 6, 2015 respectively, ECOFISH was elected as one of the members of Local Poverty Reduction Action Team (LPRAT), the group responsible for the development and monitoring of Local Poverty Reduction Action Plan.
- Being an elected member of the Local Poverty Reduction Action Team (LPRAT), ECOFISH participated in the LPRAP workshop conducted by the Municipality of Busuanga on January 21, 2016. The workshop was held in preparation for the Bottom-up Budgeting for FY 2017. A total of 84 projects were proposed by the members of LPRAT but only ten projects were

prioritized and included in the 20 million budget cap. Three among ten priority projects were fishery related programs: enhancement and establishment of MPAs, fish port construction, and aquasilviculture.

- Organized the MPA Network facilitation skills training on October 19-20, 2015 where 20 representatives from 9 MPAs in the CIG participated in. One of the outputs of the training was the development of a communication plan for MPAs. After the training, the CMN council conducted a special meeting and re-elected a new set of officials.
- Conducted on-site validation of coastal and water uses in 2 municipalities of CIG in partnership with the PCSDS technical staff and LGUs on October 27-30, 2015 and November 2-5, 2015 in Coron and Busuanga respectively. The results of the validation activities were presented to the stakeholders through consultation meetings where objectives and allowable activities were reviewed and harmonized with ECAN zoning guidelines. The coastal and water use plans (CWUP) final draft will be presented to the SB session for approval.



Orientation with Mayor Samuel de Jesus and SB Deraco of Busuanga regarding resource use conflict in Concepcion using the coastal water use map.



(left) Culmination ceremony of the Fish Conservation celebration; (right) Poster Making contest participated by students from Coron School of fisheries.

- ECOFISH co-organized the Fish Conservation Celebration in Coron on October 29, 2015 where more than 300 fisherfolks, women, youth and NGOs participated in the activity. The project hosted and facilitated the poster making contest and logo making contest for the Calamianes MPA Network (CMN).
- At the time of writing, Coron has the most number of declared MPAs among the 4 municipalities in CIG; there are 6 established MPAs and 3 more being processed to cover over 5,000 hectares all together. Given this situation, LGU Coron decided to create a small MPA network intended for Coron, but also under the Calamianes MPA Network. ECOFISH provided technical support during the development of the concept and a series of meetings conducted in November 2015. Highlights of the meeting include the identification of common issues among individual MPAs in Coron, presentation of the concept of MPA

network and its importance, approval of the Coron MPA Network organizational structure, defining the roles and responsibilities of the MPA management Council and MPA management Board, and the development of initial action plans.

- Facilitated the community partnership monitoring and evaluation in Culion on November 10-12, 2015. Nine POs were interviewed.
- Assisted the Calamianes MPA Network (CMN) during their quarterly network meeting on November 20, 2015. Draft CMN plan was discussed and the design for the annual network meeting was planned.
- On December 2, 2015, ECOFISH conducted the “EAFM: Selected Applications” forum to achieve the following objectives: (1) To present the results of the two major



Key informant interview with UBCC Fisherman Association President during community partnership M&E in Culion.

studies conducted by the project- Estimating the Recreational Value of Ecosystems in Coron, Busuanga and Culion through willingness to pay (WTP) and value chain analysis for sea cucumber in Calamianes Island Group MKBA; and (2) to introduce an incentive scheme to promote MPAs in CIG. Among the major outputs of the forum were:

- (1) Linapacan committed to use the WTP study as basis in the creation of a Municipal tourism ordinance. The LGU will get the cooperation of the tour operators and the resorts for the users’ fees;
 - (2) Willingness of 4 LGUs from Linapacan, Busuanga, Culion and Coron to venture in sea cucumber enterprise; and
 - (3) Got commitment from the 4 municipalities (Coron, Busuanga, Culion and Linapacan) and their agreement to join the MPA Awards as part of the incentive program for MPA managers
- Banking on the success of the first MPA Guard training conducted last March 2015 in collaboration with PNP Maritime Group, ECOFISH organized the 2nd batch of MPA Guard training and Operation Planning Workshop on December 3-5, 2015 to assess the status of the MPAs in terms of promotion compliance and enforcement, to capacitate key MPA leaders on the basic tenets of guarding an MPA, and to support the development of an MPA enforcement plan. Forty-one (41) MPA guards from 9 MPAs attended the training.
 - Support for the development of social enterprises for fishing communities in the Calamianes Island Group project through Special Activity Funds (SAF) has been awarded to Partnership of Philippine support Service agencies (PHILSSA). The project intends to complement current ECOFISH deliverables and activities by enhancing the sustainable financing strategy of the project. It intends to support at least twelve (12) social enterprises. The twelve (12) supported projects should be distributed to the municipalities, ideally at three (3) for each

municipality. A number of the social enterprises identified and recommended by partners have been started:



PNP Maritime Group together with ECOFISH Personnel assisted the MPA Guards on their navigational chart plotting exercises on December 4, 2015 at Kamalig Training Center, Coron, Palawan (left photo); Bulalacao MPA Guard in red shirt during information gathering simulation exercise on December 5, 2015 at Public Market, Coron, Palawan (right photo).

- a. Site validations of the proposed mud crab production sites in Busuanga, Coron and Culion were conducted on January 28, February 1, 2 and 4, 2016 to determine its suitability for mud crab fattening in partnership with Samdhana Institute. Mudcrab fattening has been identified by the community as one of the potential livelihoods primarily because of its high demands both in domestic and foreign markets.
- b. On February 6-9 and March 8-10, the USAID-ECOFISH-PHILSSA project had



(L) Ms Rina Rosales, ECOFISH Resource Economist, introducing the concept of cultural village to the Tagbanua elders in Banuang daan, Coron Palawan on March 8, 2016; (R) Marinel Contreras and Tala Contreras, invited artists, conducting focus group discussion with Tagbanua women in Calauit

invited respected artists, sociologist and architects to conduct scoping activities in the proposed cultural village in the two Tagbanua communities: Banuang daan in Coron Island and Balik Calauit Movement in Calauit, Busuanga. Both were awarded with Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title (CADT) by the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP). The proposed cultural village of the Tagbanua is an area set aside to depict the life styles, activities and artefacts of their culture. The Council of Elders along with the officers of the BCM in Calauit and Banauang daan gave their

approval of the proposed cultural village to be established through the partnership of PHILSSA and ECOFISH.

- c. One particular project that Calait would like to explore is the publication of a children's book that will feature their traditions and best practices, to ensure that these are passed on to the succeeding generations. The idea of highlighting their traditional jewelry as souvenir items was likewise encouraged by the BCM leadership. Finally, they would like to incorporate other new projects in the area, such as mudcrab fattening and their bio-organic farm as part of the ecotourism project to be established.
- d. In addition to establishing a cultural village in their community, the Tagbanua community in Bgy. Banuang Daan, Coron Island would like to include the establishment of a museum featuring their traditional gears and implements that can showcase their traditional practices and way of living. Whatever final design that emerges should however include waste management, as there were beginning signs of environmental degradation and pollution owing to poor waste management practices in the community.



(L) Installation of floating hapa frames at Tantangen Island, Busuanga on March 9, 2016 with assistance from Concepcion Fisherfolks Association and UP MSI; (R) During the release of 6,000 sea cucumber juveniles at Tantangen Island, Busuanga on March 10, 2016.

- e. Site assessment on the proposed sea ranching sites in Coron and Busuanga were conducted on February 28 to March 1, 2016 with technical assistance from UP-MSI in partnership with LGUs from the two municipalities. The team used the suitability of habitat/substrate quality and exposure to risk factors and environmental stresses criteria for selecting the sites, based on the result of the assessment, three sites were recommended for sea cucumber ranching, these are located in Sitio Dahat and Decalve MPA, Barangay Bintuan and Concepcion MPA, Busuanga. After the assessment, target beneficiaries were invited for a sea cucumber ranching orientation-seminar on March 7, 2016 to discuss the processes involved in the ranching and the roles and responsibilities of the beneficiaries, UP-MSI, ECOFISH-PHILSSA and LGUs. Toward the end of the seminar orientation, action plans were formulated.
- f. Implementation of action plans immediately followed after the seminar-orientation. Construction of hapa frames and deployment of juveniles were employed on March

8-10, 2016. Eighteen thousand (18,000) sea cucumber juveniles from Palawan Aquaculture Corporation hatchery were released in the hapa frames, it was equally distributed to three sites, and each site was given 6,000 juveniles. First monitoring of the sea cucumber juveniles will be conducted in April 2016.

- In February 2016, the Calamianes Group of Islands MPA Network (CMN) in partnership with the USAID-ECOFISH Project organized the search for outstanding MPA in Calamianes and launched the Recognition Awards for CIG’s Enhanced Ecosystems (RACE). The main objectives of the process were to generate sustained interest among the MPAs managers at the municipal level, resolve differences between LGU and IP interests, provide incentives for good MPA management by giving recognition and awards for best-managed MPAs and document and replicate best practices. After the launching, series of meetings with Evaluation team were conducted to finalize the guidelines and criteria for judging.

- The RACE evaluators are composed of representatives from BFAR, PCSDS, PNP-MG, PHILSSA, Tangay Y ang Laud, Palawan State University, Coron School of Fisheries, Philippine Coast Guard Auxiliary, Malampaya Foundation Inc., Calamianes Association of Tourism Establishment, NCIP, Community Centered Conservation (C3), and ECOFISH. The evaluation for the 2016 search for the Recognition Awards for CIG’s Enhanced Ecosystems (RACE) will run through nine months from February 2016 and culminate in October 2016 during the Fish Conservation Month.



Atty. James Kho during the presentation of salient features of amended Fisheries Code and review of Linapacan Municipal Fisheries Ordinance at Session Hall, Municipal Building on February 29, 2016

- ECOFISH Project provided legal assistance to the Local Government Unit of Linapacan on the review of Linapacan Municipal Fisheries Code on February 29, 2016. Some of the important matters discussed were: salient features of amended fisheries Code or RA 10654 that are applicable to the municipal fisheries ordinance, incorporation of management zones and its uses and updating of registration and licensing section. Threat map was also presented to determine their top priorities on enforcement and decide on the type of commercial fishing vessel that will be allowed and regulated in their municipality. The review and updating of municipal fisheries ordinance is in conformity with the Philippine Fisheries Code (RA 8550, as amended by RA10654), the Local Government Code (RA 7160), the Clean Water Act (RA 9275), the Climate Change Act (RA 9729), SEP Law (RA 7611) and other relevant laws.
- The project in partnership with Calamianes MPA Network holds the CMN Training workshop, focused on the theme “Expanding the reach of MPA Network” on February 3-4, 2016. The event was attended by more than 70 participants from 4 municipalities of Coron, Culion, Busuanga and Linapacan. The two day training workshop included discussions on

the status of the 22 individual MPA Network members in the CIG MKBA and the direction of the MPA Network. Some of the important milestones of the activity were: (1) declaration of Joint statement of all LGUs and partners NGOs, NGAs and private sectors in CIG supporting the strengthening of Calamianes MPA Network; (2) launching of CMN logo which signifies unity in the conservation and protection of marine key biodiversity in the site; (3) launching of the Recognition Awards for CIG's Enhanced Ecosystem (RACE), a search for outstanding MPA in the MKBA, to recognize effectively-managed MPAs and reward the top ones that are governed properly; and (4) administration of MEAT, to determine the management level of each MPA and identify the management gaps that need to be addressed by the MPA management council and LGUs.



(L) LGU Busuanga headed by Hon. Elizabeth Cervantes, Vice Mayor during assessment of MPA management using MEAT on February 4, 2016 at Coron Village Lodge, Coron; (R) Arnel Alcantara, Municipal Agriculturist of Culion during acceptance of commitment and challenges for CMN on February 4, 2016 at Coron Village Lodge, Coron

- To ensure compliance on the documentary requirements of the ECOFISH project standards in conducting activities, the project organized the M&E orientation for Special Activity Fund (SAF) recipients on February 9-10, 2016.
- Conducted Focus Group Discussion (FGD) with Bagnet operators on March 4, 2016. Bagnet also known Basnig, is a type of commercial fishing fleet that capture *Spratelloides gracilis* (silver-stripe round herring locally called as *dilis bahura*), the top fish species caught in Calamianes based on the fish catch monitoring study of ECOFISH project in 2013 and 2015. The residents of Coron claimed that Basnig fishing operation has been part of the Coron fishing industry since time immemorial, that is the reason why they allowed them to fish inside the municipal waters, however, Basnig fishing started to diminish and eventually gone because of low catch sometime in 1990's until it was revived in 2012. In one of the inter-LGU enforcement operations conducted in Coron on September 23, 2015, the team apprehended one basnig fishing vessel, this incident triggered the LGU Coron to realize that this type of fishing has been operating in the municipality without legal basis. This put pressure on the Sangguniang Bayan to come up with a legal strategy to address both the sentiments of the bagnet operator and the inter-LGU enforcement team and requested technical assistance from ECOFISH on how to go about it. Regulation on the number of Bagnet fishing vessel was proposed during FGD session with Bagnet operators to ensure sustainable fishing of *dilis bahura*, the FGD recommendation will be used as input to the proposed municipal fisheries and coastal resource management ordinance of Coron.

- Organized the Basic Bookkeeping and financial management training Part 1 for selected members of seven (7) Peoples Organizations in Busuanga on March 15-16, 2016. The training is one among eight training modules developed by the project and given to community partners as part of social preparation for enterprise development.
- Organized and facilitated the business planning workshop for two community partners from Culion on March 17-18, 2016. The workshop generated two business plans: the dried fish bisugo business of Cagaet Minorities Fisherfolk Association and Seaweed pancit canton of 4Ps Parent Leader Association.



USAID Philippines-ECOFISH Project together with SEKAYA Foundation during community consultation meeting on potential medicinal value with Barangay Officials and Tagbanua tribe in Brgy. Barangonan, Linapacan on March 1, 2016.

- On February 29 to March 1, 2016, USAID-ECOFISH project staff and SEKAYA Foundation personnel facilitated the consultation meetings in select barangays in Linapacan. This is part of the Free Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) application process of National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) on the gene-banking research that include identification and sample of prospective natural assets for possible development into natural medicinal products. Introduction and discussions among barangay officials and Tagbanua tribe leaders in Barangays Calibangbangan, Pical and Barangonan, Linapacan were conducted gearing towards securing acceptance on planned partnership. Planned partnership activities included: conduct of scoping activities, interviews, and focus group discussions to identify natural products with potential medicinal value within selected IP communities, document written and oral traditions around indigenous practices to natural products, acquire sample of selected natural products for laboratory testing for toxicity according to protocols and discuss Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).
- After the consultation meetings, ECOFISH team were able to get a firm acceptance from the 3 barangays and their IP communities to move forward with the project, accounting for the enthusiastic discussions with the IP leaders and communities on the wide-use of natural medicinal plants and their uses, preparation, cultural significance and availability. ECOFISH staff will be collecting the community resolutions for transmittal and validation by NCIP, after which the project secure the FPIC and allow them to move towards the survey phase.
- ECOFISH Team facilitated the review of coastal and water use plan of Linapacan on March 1, 2016 and attended by the Technical Working Group (TWG) from the Office of the

Sangguniang Bayan, Municipal Tourism Office, Municipal Planning & Development Office, and Office of the Municipal Agriculturist. Regulations on the management of water use zones were discussed and decided to incorporate in the proposed amendment of municipal fisheries and coastal resources management ordinance of Linapacan. The following day, March 2, 2016, the team together with the representatives from TWG conducted site validation activity in select areas in the municipality.

- To support the strengthening of Calamianes Group of Islands MPA Network (CMN) and establishment of additional two MPAs in CIG, the Palawan State University Linapacan Campus has been awarded a contract through the Special Activity Fund (SAF) in March 2016 for the provision of technical assistance for the establishment of two (2) new Marine Protected Areas in Linapacan municipality, including capacity building for MPA management bodies, strengthening of MPA enforcement capacity and integration into the CMN. The establishment and strengthening of the two MPAs will be a significant addition to the overall project goal of increasing fish stock and improving fisheries livelihoods in the Calamianes Island Group.

Unplanned Activities:

- ECOFISH provided inputs on the Biodiversity and Fisheries Impacts of the Calamianes MPA Network during the two-day Palawan Marine Protected Area summit last December 9-10, 2015, which was organized by the National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (NFRDI) of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources in cooperation with the Provincial Government through the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist. More than 100 officials from municipalities and barangays south of the province of Palawan, law-enforcement agencies, non-government organizations and other sectors joined the summit.
- ECOFISH participated in the Action Planning for Calamianes Tourism Circuit Development on November 9, 2015 which aimed to: reach a consensus on the specific next steps for implementing the immediate product development and destination branding/marketing activities for the Calamianes Tourism Circuit; identify the priority tourism sites in the Busuanga-Coron Island tourism circuits that will be the initial focus of convergence efforts for product development (including skills training for both livelihood and employment); plan the launching of the Calamianes destination brand; and form working groups from the LGU, private sector, and development partners to plan and implement the agreed next steps.
- ECOFISH project provided information dissemination support to the PCSDS for the forthcoming implementation of the close season provision of the revised PCSD Administrative Order No 5, series of 2014 or the Guidelines for the Regulation and Monitoring of catching, culture, trade, transport and export of Reef-fish-for-Food in Palawan. The implementation of the policy which set the minimum and maximum size restrictions in the catch hopes to give the red coral trout the opportunity to have a breather from overfishing and ensure that the fishery for red coral trout in Palawan will remain sustainable. When imposed, close season will be from June 16 to August 31 and October 16 to December 15.
- Facilitated the visit of Jeremy Gustafon of USAID in Coron Island and Siete Pecados Marine Park on February 10, 2016. Siete Pecados Marine Park manager provided a briefing on how Siete Pecados MPA is being operated and maintained as a prime tourist destination. Likewise, the top tourist spots in Coron Island were visited. A historical overview of the

CADT and traditional uses of these tourist spots were provided by former TTCIA Chairperson Rodolfo Aguilar. Management practices were observed while in the area.

- ECOFISH staff attended the FGD on March 3, 2016 regarding the drafting of National Tourism Development Plan which aimed to solicit information as input to the National Tourism Development Plan.

5.2. Danajon Reef MKBA

In year 4, the Project continued its support to activities of existing inter-governmental-LGU and inter-agency bodies such as Coastal Law Enforcement Council, Danajon Bank Double Barrier Reef Council, Regional Development Council, and Coastal Law Enforcement Alliance in Region 7. They served as platforms to deliver the key results. Likewise mandated organizations with enterprise development programs and mandates were tapped or leveraged to pursue project goals of improving employment resulting from sustainable fishing practices. Issues on delineation of municipal waters were tackled during marine spatial planning sessions.

The table below summarizes the status of (O-ongoing; C-completed) of interventions and activities in the Danajon Reef MKBA under the various deliverables.

Danajon Reef MKBA				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Deliverable 1: Policy Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change				
Provide support in the conduct of RTDs, conference, meetings and consultation on issues with regional and national policy implications	O	O		
Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA				
Support in the identification of probable case studies demonstrating success stories or challenges encountered through direct project intervention	O	O		
Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the 8 MKBAs				
Coordinate and assist in the collection of existing data in the area on fisheries resources management for the national data base on EAFM (Leyte and Bohol)	O	O		
Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted				
Support the conduct of assessment and monitoring of coastal law enforcement baselines	O	O		
Support the conduct of a series of training for the Regional BFAR Quick Response Team of Regions 8 and 7	O	O		
Support BFAR in the conduct of MFARMC strengthening (Bohol and Leyte)	O	O		
Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established				
Link up with DSWD-SLP for community partnership (Bohol and Leyte)	O	O		
Support activities related to the implementation of Phase 2 of Blue Crab Partnership focusing on gear swap	O	O		

Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs				
Conduct monitoring and assessment of enforcement (Bohol and Leyte)	O	O		
Conduct governance benchmarking (Bohol and Leyte)	O	O		
Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species				
Support activities leading to the determination of trophic interaction and appropriate fishing effort configuration (Bohol)	O	O		
Support activities related to Phase 2 of blue swimming crabs fisheries monitoring and assessment to evaluate impacts of management	O	O		
Provide support in the assessment and evaluation of viability of mariculture species (Bohol)	O	O		
Support activities related to the conduct of mitigation measures for mariculture -activities (Bohol)	O	O		
Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs				
Coordinate with SAF provider in the conduct of orientation/consultation on the establishment of MPAs for areas without MPAs or those needing strengthening of existing MPAs (Leyte)	O	O		
Coordinate the conduct of consultation meetings with the stakeholders on the selection of the MPA sites (Leyte)	O	O		
Facilitate the review of existing MPA management plans for areas with existing MPAs (Leyte and Bohol)	O	O		
Provide technical assistance to focal LGUs for the formulation of MPA management plans (Bohol and Leyte)	O	O		
Facilitate strengthening of MPA management committees (Bohol and Leyte)	O	O		
Orientation on Management Effectiveness Assessment Tool (MEAT)-for areas with existing MPAs or network of MPAs (Leyte)	O	O		
Provide technical assistance, coaching and mentoring for the administration of MEAT (Leyte and Bohol)	O	O		
Support the LGUs in strengthening POs to manage the MPAs/Fish Sanctuaries and in the implementation of their MPA management plans. (Bohol and Leyte)	O	O		
Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs				
Provide support to activities that will lead to the strengthening of the reconstituted CLEC of Bohol and the Danajon Double Barrier Reef Management Council	O	O		
Support activities of the BFAR, LGUs and PNP leading to compliance and enforcement of fishery laws in Danajon Bank	O	O		
Support the Provincial Government of Bohol in the conduct of trainings for capability-building/strengthening of the municipal coastal law enforcement teams	C			
Provide support in the conduct of meetings, trainings and workshops involving municipal coastal law enforcers related to popularization of the amended fisheries laws	C			

Support the conduct of meetings, trainings and workshops that will increase the rate of prosecution using criminal procedures, national administrative adjudication and local summary proceedings.	O	O		
Support the conduct of the trainings of municipal coastal law enforcement teams on information, education and communication.	O	O		
Facilitate in the finalization, adoption, packaging and reproduction of the CFRM Plans (Leyte, Southern Leyte LGUs)	O	O		
Facilitate site validation, drafting, finalization and adoption of the Marine Spatial Plan (Bohol LGUs) incorporating newly specified economic criteria	O	O		
Facilitate site validation, drafting, refinement, finalization and adoption of the Marine Spatial Plan (Leyte and South Leyte LGUs) incorporating newly specified economic criteria	O	O		
Organize orientation workshop on right-sizing of fishing effort and subsequent consultations (Bohol LGUs)	O	O		
Identify service provider under SAF to provide Technical and Legal support to strengthen coastal/fishery law enforcement team. (Danajon wide)	O	O		
Support special events such as Month of the Ocean, Environment Week, Sandugo and other local events to promote EAFM and enforcement of laws	O	O		
Provide support in identifying and implementing SAF to complement enforcement-related deliverables in the focal areas	O	O		
Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Coordinate in the conduct of review of municipal fishery ordinance, executive orders municipal fishing vessel and gear registration, permitting and licensing system (Bohol and Leyte)	O	O		
Support the BFAR and the LGUs in implementing FishR and BoatR and in using them for licensing and other management purposes (Bohol/Leyte)	O	O		
Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs				
Provide support in the conduct of meetings, RTD, consultations in identifying revenue generation opportunities for the MKBA	O	O		
Facilitate the collection of relevant data related to revenue generation system, resource use fees, expenditures and other market-based instruments of LGUs	O	O		
Support activities that will implement identified revenue generating program of the LGUs	O	O		
Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Provide support in efforts to collaborate with the RDC and its appropriate committees, the BFAR, NEDA, Chambers of Commerce, Provincial Government, and the like in exploring feasible partnerships for enterprise development initiatives in the MKBA	O	O		
Provide support in implementing sustainable financing programs that may emerge from strategic partnerships with key stakeholders	O	O		

Highlights of key site-level activities/accomplishments:

- ECOFISH staff assisted BFAR in the conduct of several activities during the celebration of Fish Conservation Week. Major topics delivered during the celebration were the amendment of RA 8550, the changes brought about by RA 10654, and the Joint DA-DILG Administrative Order No. 1 series of 2014 entitled: Regulation for the conservation of Blue swimming Crab. ECOFISH presented the result of one-year study on the use of Spawning Potential Ratio for the management of blue swimming crab in Danajon Reef.
- On October 27, 2015, ECOFISH participated in the joint planning session initiated by the Economic Development Committee (EDC) of NEDA together with BFAR Region 7 and 8 and the newly created Technical Working Group.
- The Regional Director of BFAR and Provincial Governor of Bohol initiated the launching of crab pot as Gear Swap program on November 03, 2015.
- Holding cages for berried blue swimming crabs were turned over to community in February 22, 2016 that also included actual demonstration on proper placement of holding cages in the suitable sites. As part of the sustainability mechanism for the management of blue swimming crab, results of the value chain analysis study was also presented.



Ceremony for the turn over of holding cages for berried blue crab to stakeholders and field demonstration on the setting up and maintenance of holding cages in the focal area of the Danajon Reef MKBA in February 2016.

- IEC materials about the biology of blue swimming crabs were distributed to the fishers and LGU partners.

- Facilitated funding for livelihood project for Tubigon with the Executive Director of Social Action Center.
- Provided venue and facilitated the clarification of issues about red tide by BFAR staff in to concerned communities on October 17, 2015.
- On October 16, 2015, the Site Coordinator provided inputs and shared training modules to the members of CLE and MPA Provincial TWG for their proposed training programs. This included ECOFISH project activities and experiences that contribute to the strengthening of the Coastal Law Enforcement and MPA management.
- Conducted follow-up orientation on Danajon Double Barrier Reef and the fisheries management framework employed ECOFISH to PNP MG and PCG on December 07, 2015.
- The site team responded to the request from the Philippine Information Agency (PIA), by serving as guest during the radio program entitled “Kapihan sa PIA” and shared inputs on the progress of ECOFISH project.
- In collaboration with the Bohol Environment Management Office and Environmental Legal Assistance Center (ELAC), the Site Team facilitated the conduct of two-day refresher course and paralegal training to 93 participants including the new members of the Provincial CLE Team and Municipal CLE Team on December 1-2, 2015.



Activities of participants during the Refresher Training Course on Coastal Law Enforcement conducted by ECOFISH in coordination with the BEMO and ELAC in December 20165

- Provided inputs in the preparation of training design and served as Resource Speaker during

the conduct of joint action planning workshop of the MFARMCs and MCLETs of LGU Tubigon on February 26, 2016.

- Provided data on the status of issues and problems related to fishery law enforcement in Danajon Reef during the CLEAR 7 strategic planning workshop on January 08, 2016 held in Cebu City. The workshop outputs were incorporated in the formulation of CLEAR 7 Strategic action plan.
- Provided technical support to BFAR Region 8 in the preparation of event design for and the conduct of the harmonization of municipal fishery ordinances on November 19-20, 2015.
- Coordinated with the Provincial Government of Bohol and Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources during the celebration of World Food Day.
- Conducted survey and data collection of gate price of fish from the fishers per size of the representative species within the landing site of the focal areas. The data was used as input in the Danajon Ecopath model for profit comparison of the different fishing gears.
- Collaborated with the Province of Bohol and BEMO in the conduct of Provincial Marine Protected Area Summit on December 8-9, 2015 attended by 117 participants. The major output of the summit was the strategic MPA management plan that would serve as basis for the budget for 2016 from the provincial and municipal government units.



Activities during the two-day Provincial MPA Summit in Tagbilaran City in December 2015, participated in by all MPA Councils in the the Province of Bohol, academe, NGOs, and POs.

- Assisted and facilitated the assessment of the business plans and project proposals. On October 26-27, 2015 the site team met with the Municipal Agriculturist and Fishery Technician of Clarin, Getafe, and Tourism Officer of Buenavista to discuss changes in the BuB guidelines and revised project proposals to conform to the new guidelines. In the municipality of Getafe the project proposal was revised into a community college as an

alternate of mangrove management and coastal tourism development. In Clarin, the marinated bangus project was awarded to selected qualified family instead of a PO.

- The University of the Philippines Visayas Foundation Incorporated (UPVFI) and the Visayas State University started the process of strengthening MPAs and network of MPAs under Special Activity Fund in the Bohol and Leyte side of the Danajon Reef, respectively.
- On February 1-5, 2016, the site team assisted in the conduct of interview and collection of data on resource valuation for use in Marine Spatial Plan. The target participants (MAO, FT, Treasurer, Budget Officer, Tourism Officer, Municipal Accountant, Coastguard and PPA) were present during the focus group discussions.



Activities during the piloting of a training in designing MPA network incorporating ecological principles to improve the resilience of MPAs to climate change and other human induced factors. The two-day pilot training was conducted on 30-31 March 2016 in Bohol primarily for the MPA network in the Danajon Reef MKBA.

- The ECOFISH team conducted an MPA network design workshop on March 30-31, 2016. Danajon Reef was chosen as case study for the MPA network designing training that will ultimately be replicated in other project sites. Fifty three (53) key partners from MPA councils municipal officials, provincial officials, FARMCs, and line agencies participated in the workshop. The participants were able to realize the necessity of taking into consideration the required size, social, and ecological criteria in designing MPAs and network of MPAs. The training workshop ended with action planning and next step activities.

Unplanned activities:

- The site team assisted the case study writer from PRIMEX/USAID project in the conduct of interviews and focus group discussion regarding the success story of USAID funded project in Bohol. This is to document the Legacy of USAID project in the Philippines particularly coastal/fisheries management related projects in Danajon area.
- Facilitated the exchange of learnings between the US General Counsel and provincial key partners on the compliance and enforcement of fishery law in Danajon Reef.
- Coordinated Atty. Estrella Menchavez of Green Travelers in exploring potential sites for ecotourism in Danajon Reef. Distributed 40 pairs of slippers in each school particularly in East Central Elementary School of Maca-as Tubigon, Barangay Bato, Buenavista and Poblacion Elementary school in Talibon.

Activities not accomplish and why?

- Orientation on adjudication process and creation of Adjudication Board was not conducted due to delayed approval of the new implementing rules and regulation of RA 10654 on adjudication process.

5.3. Lingayen Gulf MKBA

The previous year focused on the alliance-building among partner LGUs, government agencies, private and non-organizational sectors. This resulted in the reorganization of the La Union Baywatch Network for Sustainable Fisheries (LUBNSF), a province-wide network. The first half of year 4 focused on municipal-level initiatives, primarily in support of marine protected areas (MPAs) in both the provinces of La Union and Pangasinan. While the goal is to establish an MPA network, it was necessary to establish new ones that have been identified as spawning and/or feeding areas. Marine spatial planning was also initiated in focal areas of La Union, and the Province has picked this up for expansion to all remaining coastal LGUs of La Union.

Considering the clamor to strengthen coastal law enforcement in La Union, a basic coastal law enforcement training was conducted. At the same time, the LUBNSF agreed on its organizational structure, conducted its action planning which the Province provided a budget of Php2.5 million, and made big progress in activation of the LUBNSF coastal law enforcement Action Group. All the fisheries management activities and CLE activities fall under the umbrella of the LUBNSF.

The table below summarizes the status of (O-ongoing; C-completed) of interventions and activities in the Lingayen Gulf MKBA under the various deliverables.

Lingayen Gulf MKBA				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Deliverable 1: Policy Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change				
Support the conduct of policy forum as a feed-backing mechanism for academic, institutional and government studies to guide policy-makers	O	O		

Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA				
Identify at least one best practice, peculiar character or challenges as possible case studies	O	C		
Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the 8 MKBAs				
Support activities relevant to the improvement or application of EAFM benchmarking	O	C		
Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted				
Facilitate the conduct of orientation-training on Marine Spatial Planning to focal LGUs and relevant partners (NGAs, NGOs, academe, other stakeholder groups)	C			
Support the conduct of fisheries law enforcement trainings in focal LGUs in collaboration with the Provincial Government	O	O		
Conduct series of training including needs assessment for BFAR regional QRT	O	O		
Provide support to build the capacity of NGAs, LGUs and partner organizations in undertaking, developing and disseminating information, education and communication products to support EAFM efforts (MPA, Closed Season, Enforcement, inter-local cooperation, PPPs) in the MKA	O	O		
Provide support to fish examiners training				
Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established				
Support activities that will provide opportunities for PPP in the area of livelihood/enterprise development, MPAs and enforcement	O	O		
Support activities that will promote sustainable livelihoods such as sea cucumber natural ranching and the like with DMMSU	O	O		
Support activities that will provide opportunities for aquaculture to prosper	O	O		
Facilitate entry of skills development service providers	O	O		
Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs				
Support the conduct of assessment and monitoring of enforcement condition in the MKBA	O	O		
Conduct monitoring of governance benchmarks in the focal areas	O	O		
Deliverable 8: Scientific studies on selected MKBA-specific fish species				
Support the conduct of data gathering to support siganid and epon management	O	O		
Support the conduct of community fora on closed season of Siganids and <i>epon</i>	O	O		
Support the conduct of feed backing session of seagrass assessment results to concerned LGUs	O	O		
Provide technical assistance to LGUs in the establishment of marine reserve in seagrass areas for conservation of Siganid and shellfish	O	O		
Support the drafting of appropriate policy instrument to manage Siganids and <i>epon</i>	O	O		
Support activities leading to the establishment of trophic interaction (EwE model) and simulations of fishing effort configuration				

Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs				
Provide technical assistance to strengthen existing MPAs including those supported under AMPA	O	O		
Provide support and monitor the implementation of SAF	O	O		
Support activities involving stakeholders that will promote and sustain MPA networks	O	O		
Provide assistance in the collection of data on mangroves leading to joint governmental efforts to manage and rehabilitate mangroves	O	O		
Support the establishment of mangrove management areas in Bauang and Aringay		O		
Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs				
Support the conduct of an inter-local, inter-agency alliance forum to finalize management structure, tasks, funds available, election of officers, secretariat	O	O		
Provide support towards the development of a Marine Spatial Plan including series of workshops and consultations incorporating economic criteria in use prioritization, field validations, drafting of MSP document and related policy instruments	O	O		
Support the conduct of regular meetings of key partners and focal persons to update and continuously promote EAFM in an inter-local, inter-agency environment	O	O		
Provide support in the development, finalization and submission of inter-LGU fisheries management plan	O	O		
Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Provide assistance to LGUs in the development of policy to support licensing of municipal fishing boats and gears	O	O		
Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs				
Provide support in the conduct of exploratory meetings, scoping missions and consultations that may result to revenue generation systems, or user fee schemes	O	C		
Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the MKBA				
Conduct exploratory meetings with heads of CSR programs of companies based in or operating in Lingayen Gulf	O	O		
Explore partnerships with donors and or proponents of existing programs and projects on livelihood and tourism	O	O		
Support business planning and organizational development activities		O		

Highlights of key site-level activities/accomplishments:

- The La Union Baywatch Network for Sustainable Fisheries (LUBNSF) was reactivated in 2015. During the first quarter of 2016, the LUBNSF reviewed and agreed on the organizational structure of the LUBNSF as well as that of the LUBNSF CLE Action Group,



Meeting of the Technical Working Group of the La Union Baywatch Network for Sustainable Fisheries to discuss relevant documents towards strengthening of the inter-local government alliance.

reviewed the draft Executive Order for finalization by the Provincial Legal Office, and approved the Action Plans prepared by respective LGUs.

- Other agreements specifically made by the CLE TWG were the adoption of the Operations Protocol and agreement on Operation Plan Lambong as presented by the PNP Province. In addition during the past months, the Mayors issued Memos on CLE team members and the PNP issued a Memo on PNP Baywatch members.



The establishment of a mangrove forest belt in Alaminos City is one of the project's interventions in the area. ECOFISH facilitated the training on mangrove identification and ecology for the Bued Mangrove Forest Park ecoguides.

- A Mangrove Ecoguides Training was conducted in partnership with the Shore It Up Foundation wherein the mangrove ecology aspect was highlighted and practical fieldwork conducted.
- The establishment of new marine protected areas is being done from both the site office and also SAF partner Mariano Marcos State University (MMSU). The MPAs currently being established are a Mangrove and AR Protected Areas in Bauang, a Mangrove Area in Aringay, a Seagrass Reserve in Santo Tomas, and a Seashell Reserve in Rosario (all in La Union), as well as a the Bued Mangrove Forest Ecopark in Bued, Alaminos City, and a mangrove forest belt in Alaminos City, Pangasinan. All of these are meant to eventually lead to a Marine Protected Area (MPA) Network. The initial steps for all these new MPAs conducted so far are community consultations, consultation with partner LGUs, presentation of draft ordinances to concerned bodies, and an initial MPA planning session with concerned LGU partners and stakeholders. The ECOFISH internal MPA Network workshop facilitated by MERF provided a framework of understanding that has guided implementation.



Consultations with stakeholders, orientations for fisherfolks, and various trainings for peoples organizations are part of the participatory process being facilitated by the project in the Lingayen Gulf MKRA

- A basic Coastal Law Enforcement training was conducted for all partners in La Union, as well as an MPA Guard Training for MPA guards of San Fernando City. This has led to some LGUs such as Bauang, establishing its Baywatch command post to aid in surveillance.
- Various trainings related to mangrove forest ecology and management were conducted with concerned fisherfolks in selected coastal barangays of Alaminos City, Pangasinan. The course was meant to increase their appreciation for their mangrove habitats as an ecology and

as a potential source of livelihood related to eco-tourism. It was also a part of the organizational development of partner peoples' organizations in these barangays.

- Potential enterprises were identified in Alaminos City, Pangasinan. These include organic feeds production for fishes, fish processing, kayaking/boat rental along mangrove rivers, food production for tourists.



Marine Spatial Planning activities conducted for the focal area in the Lingayen Gulf MKBA included mapping of current uses, remapping to reduce conflict, field validation and consultation with stakeholders on the proposed zoning areas.

- Potential enterprises were identified in La Union. These include mangrove nurseries in Bauang and Aringay, and activation of the existing fish hatchery in Bauang using solar energy.
- An ongoing Willingness to Pay survey for the Bued Mangrove Forest Ecopark is meant to aid decision-makers in the possible implementation of an entrance fee to the ecopark, and to get feedback for better management of the ecopark.

5.4. San Bernardino - Ticao Pass – Lagonoy Gulf MKBA

In Year 4, the Project strategized its approach in San Bernardino-Ticao Pass-Lagonoy Gulf. Increase in fish biomass will be approached in two directions: (1) the promotion of a seasonal closure for certain species of fish like *lawlaw*, and a permanent closure of marine waters through fish sanctuaries, or marine protected areas, and (2) the provision of support to local government in both Sorsogon and Northern Samar to enhance enforcement of fishery laws and improve compliance to restrictions for commercial fishing operations and laws governing marine protected areas.

Scoping missions were conducted to explore ecotourism-based social enterprises like tour guiding, tourist boat operations, home stay programs, souvenir making, and catering services in Northern Samar. At the same time, sardine processing in Bulan, Sorsogon were also be explored among other post-harvest potentials. The LGUs were assisted in the review and drafting of ordinances on closed-season and gear-specific management for Bulan and San Vicente. The team conducted meetings and made agreements with a law group in Bicol to support more local policies.

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

San Bernardino - Ticao Pass – Lagonoy Gulf MKBA				
Project Intervention/Activity	2015			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Deliverable 1: Policy Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change				
Support the conduct of a multi-stakeholder public policy forum that will tackle issues in EAFM, MPA and Climate Change such as marine spatial planning, enforcement and the like	O	O		
Support in the conduct of RTD and formal discussions about legal remedies, alternative dispute resolutions and applicable summary procedures for islands and areas with judicial access challenges	O	O		
Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA				
Support the identification and writing of at least one (1) a case study in Northern Samar and Sorsogon that will demonstrate success, challenges or lessons learned from promoting/implementing in EAFM, MPA and Climate resiliency	O	O		
Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the 8 MKBAs				
Support activities related to data gathering, information management and training on the use of an EAFM database	O	O		
Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted				
Support the conduct of a series of training of the BFAR QRT in Regions 5 and 8 with emphasis on the issues confronted by the MKBA	O	O		
Support the conduct of basic fishery law enforcement coinciding with BFAR QRT/PNP trainings	O	O		
Support the conduct trainings to support compliance promotions and enforcement, livelihoods and tourism at the local level	O	O		
Support in the conduct of enforcement training for Marine Protected Areas especially those supported under AMPA	O	O		
Facilitate the conduct of MSP orientation-training to focal LGUs and relevant partners (NGAs, NGOs, academe, other stakeholder groups)	O	C		
Support the conduct of IEC and social mobilization training for select LGUs and partners	O	O		

Support the conduct of an executive course for mayors, SPs/SBs and MAOs as part of the exit mechanism	O	O		
Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established				
Support activities that will promote and create community partnerships under the direction of NEDA	O	O		
Provide support in establishing, mobilizing and building capacities of peoples organizations geared towards social enterprises	O	O		
Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs				
Support activities that will provide venue to present the results of the fisheries, socioeconomic, enforcement and governance monitoring	O	O		
Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species				
Provide support for the species-specific management study on sardines (<i>lawlaw</i>)	O	O		
Conduct forums to communicate the result of the study for the management of sardines	O	O		
Support activities leading to the establishment of trophic interaction (EwE model) and simulations of fishing effort configuration	O	O		
Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs				
Provide support to LGUs in the identification/site selection of MPAs	O	O		
Provide support to LGUs in the legitimization process of the candidate MPAs	O	O		
Provide support in the creation and strengthening of a network of MPAs	O	O		
Collaborate with agencies, NGOs, POs, academic institutions and other donors in promoting and establishing network of MPAs	O	O		
Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs				
Facilitate the creation and regular meeting of a voluntary multi-agency, multi-stakeholder, and multi-agency working group to serve as a sounding board and critical mass to promote integrated approach to fisheries management	O	O		
Support in the conduct of intra and inter LGU, inter-agency and multi stakeholder forum or summit to discuss common fisheries agenda	O	O		
Provide support to activities leading to the development of a Marine Spatial Plan for the MKBA, such as series of workshops and consultations incorporating economic criteria in use prioritization, field validations, drafting of MSP document and related policy instruments	O	O		
Facilitate the conduct of support activities to Marine Spatial Planning and resource use allocation, including site validations, municipal water delineation, stakeholders consultations, IEC, etc.	O	O		
Provide support to national agencies such as BFAR and the PNP and local government units in the formation and strengthening of municipal-based compliance and enforcement teams	O	O		
Provide support to the conduct of a road-show to orient and update the newly elected leaders on the milestones of project implementation	O	O		

Facilitate the conduct of inter-LGU fisheries management planning for focal area LGUs and support activities toward the formulation of the Inter-LGU Fisheries Management Plan	O	O		
Provide support in the conduct of participatory planning to prepare for exit and sustainability measures mechanism	O	O		
Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Provide support to the BFAR and LGUs in implementing the FishR and the BoatR	O	O		
Provide support in the identification of LGUs with existing licensing ordinance and assess their implementation	O	O		
Provide assistance on the development of policy to support registration and licensing of municipal fishing boat and gears.	O	O		
Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs				
Provide support in activities leading to establishment of tourism fees in Northern Samar	O	O		
Provide support in activities leading to the establishment of auxiliary invoice taxes for Sorsogon LGUs	O	O		
Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the MKBA				
Provide support in scoping missions that will identify potential ecotourism-based enterprises like tour guiding, boat operations, home stay programs and catering services in Samar	O	O		
Provide support in scoping missions that will lead to identification of appropriate post-harvest program	O	O		
Support activities that will identify and mobilize MKBA-based or external support to sustainable financing programs	O	O		

Highlights of key site-level activities/accomplishments:

- EAFM lectures and EAFM trainings have been continuously given to the stakeholders, especially to the fisherfolk during consultations and trainings. To further promote EAFM, films on fisheries management were shown during these meetings.
- The site team conducted coastal resource mapping activities in 2 barangays of Sta. Magdalena, both areas of proposed MPA, and 1 barangay in Prieto Diaz, also an MPA area. Seasonality calendars were also made.
- The team conducted coastal resource mapping in Prieto Diaz, Sorsogon
- Lectures on EAFM and Law Enforcement were conducted during the 4-day Fishery Law Enforcement Training in Prieto Diaz in collaboration with the LGU, USAID-World Food Programme, Philippine Coast Guard and BFAR. These were likewise done during Organizational Development Training for Sta. Magdalena Peoples' Organizations, funded by the USAID-WFP.

- The site staff facilitated community consultation on rehabilitation of MARILAG Fish Sanctuary in Prieto Diaz
- ECOFISH conducted orientation and mapping exercises during the Marine Spatial Planning for 4 LGUs (Bulan, Matnog, Sta. Magdalena and Prieto Diaz).
- There were series of meetings with BFAR on the agreement and arrangement of the QRT trainings. BFAR agreed to provide for venue and accommodation of the QRT trainees for Level 1 to 5 trainings.



ECOFISH provided orientation during the launching and establishment of the Provincial Environmental Desk Office of the PNP Region 5 in March 2016.

- The site participated and facilitated the Provincial LGU's focus group discussion on addressing priority issues in mangrove reforestation and aquaculture in Sorsogon. Sorsogon Bay LGUs were the participants on this event.
- An exploratory meeting with PNP Polics Superintendent Jonathan Panganiban and QRT Chief Ariel Pioquinto was made to discuss establishment of PEDO in Bicol Region. PEDO was launched on March 17-18, 2016 and orientation on PEDO establishment was given to PNP Region 5 officers.
- Maritime requested the site coordinator to be part of the regional advisory council. Election and oath taking took place in February 2016. Site coordinator was elected as vice-president.
- Partnered with LIKAS and Social Action Center in re-activation of three IFARMCs in Sorsogon Province, headed by the Provincial Government.
- Initial meeting with Bicol Consortium Development Initiative on possible collaboration on Fisheries Management. BCDI's focal area is Burias Pass and Ticao Pass.
- Exploratory meeting with WWF Tuna Project-Lagonoy Gulf Project Manager for possible collaboration on FLE trainings. WWF Tuna Project is focused now on catch monitoring and post-harvest trainings.
- In preparation for the QRT trainings, the site scoped for private partners to do the non-technical trainings (communications, facilitation, presentation skills). Site team reached out to Development Center for Asia Pacific.
- A collaboration with AIM was facilitated by providing them the data they needed on tourism on the focal areas.

- ECOFISH facilitated a meeting between LGU Bulan and PNP Maritime Group that resulted in an agreement to revive the PNP-MG Station in Bulan. LGU Bulan offered a space inside Sabang Beach Resort, which is an LGU operated resort but the Maritime eventually decided to use the vacant space inside the PCG compound.



Mayor Marnellie Ballesteros-Robles and PNP-RMU Chief Gonzalo Villamor Jr. sealed the deal on re-stationing of Maritime Unit in Bulan, Sorsogon to intensify fishery law enforcement in the municipality.

- The site team assisted in scoping of coastal barangays and courtesy call to LGUs for the conduct of fishing gear inventory in Bulusan, Barcelona, Prieto Diaz, Magallanes, Castilla, Pilar and Donsol led by UP MSI-MERF.
- During the RLECC Fisheries Sub-Committee Meeting, ECOFISH shared insights/lessons from when Tañon Strait was declared as a protected seascape. The body agreed that the proposed Ticao Pass-Burias Pass seascape by DENR, composed of 16 LGUs should be reviewed carefully.



- Sta. Magdalena hosted the first Integrated FARMC meeting with ECOFISH as facilitator. The meeting was attended by 6 LGUs. The former provincial fishery officer was invited to share the IFARMC history as well as lessons from the past. The main issue identified was the lack of fund allocation from BFAR and LGUs.



Presentation of survey results by the ECOFISH team and consultation with community after the conduct of MPA assessment in Prieto Diaz.

- The Value Chain Report on *Sardinella lemuru* was finalized and is ready for feedbacking to stakeholders.
- The team provided data needed for the supplemental fishing gear inventory and searched for qualified enumerators. The enumerator’s training was conducted and coordination with LGUs was made.
- UP MSI-MERF completed the MPA surveys in Sta. Magdalena
- The scientific reproductive biology study which started in September and supposed to end in March was extended. This is due to the initial results of the study and the community and LGU of Bulan’s response. Although it is clear that the peak season for spawners are from November to December, a further study is needed to monitor for the second cycle of spawners. The LGU and the community on the other hand, are more interested in regulating the catch of juvenile lawlaw and regulating the use of fine mesh nets. The LGU was provided with a draft of ordinance on regulating the use of fine mesh nets and catching juvenile lawlaw.
- Conduct of community feedbacking of initial results of sardine reproductive biology study.
- Prieto Diaz shows interest in reviewing their policy on siganid regulation by asking literatures and scientific study on “turos”.
- During the scoping in Capul, Northern Samar, it was found out that tunas are abundant in the area from June to December. However, Capul is not covered by NSAP so there is no data on catch.

- Organizational development trainings on: Organizational Diagnosis, VMG formulation, Organizational Planning, and Basic Leadership were given to Sta. Magdalena POs.



Mr. Alfredo Lazarte, ECOFISH's Community Partnership Specialist conducted basic leadership training and organizational diagnosis to 4 fisheries organizations in Sta. Magdalena, Sorsogon.

- LGU Matnog and Bulan, PNP Maritime, and BFAR made an agreement to make Calintaan Fish Sanctuary an Adopt-a-Marine Protected Area site. MOU is being processed by BFAR.
- LGU Bulan proposed an ordinance redesigning the Butag Bay MPA, making it smaller but covering the coral reef area and mangrove area.
- Conducted initial MPA survey (snorkeling) and community consultations in Sta. Magdalena and Prieto Diaz.
- Regular meeting with Fisheries Technical Working Group to mobilize and reactivate IFARMC and review of the integrated fishery ordinance.
- Arranged first IFARMC meeting by convincing Sta. Magdalena LCE to host and call the meeting.
- The ECOFISH team conducted an FGD on user fees to Capul, San Vicente, Gubat and Prieto Diaz. Only Prieto Diaz has auxiliary fee ordinance but is interested in updating the prescribed fees. The team targets Bulan, Matnog and Sta. Magdalena to set up auxiliary fees. For tourist fee, only Biri and Matnog have ordinances. ECOFISH is now conducting Willingness to Pay Survey for Gubat, Capul, and San Vicente. The survey started March and will end in June. Data gathering and economic valuation for MSP is now ongoing.
- The team scoped for feasible enterprise ideas and community partners in Gubat, San Vicente, Capul and Prieto Diaz. Capul is targeted for diving and snorkeling for ecotourism. A PO named BUDLIS will be strengthened through trainings. The PO wants to engage in seaweeds value adding and souvenir items for the cruise ship passengers that visit Capul every year for 2 years now. Gubat PO will be directed to eco-tourism and catering services. Sta. Magdalena PO, with WFP as partner will engage in Aquasilviculture. Matnog Women's Association which is now waiting for BFAR's provision of mask and snorkel for eco-tourism will be linked to DOT.
- Scouting for two enterprise development coordinators that will facilitate enterprise interventions in Sorsogon province and in Capul.

- Setting up of WTP Survey in San Vicente, Capul and Gubat
- Presentation of the results of value chain study of lawlaw in San Bernardino Strait.

5.5. Southern Negros Island MKBA

For the last and first quarters of 2015 and 2016 respectively, the activities in South Negros MKBA were focused on the establishment of new Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and network of MPAs, support to environment-friendly enterprises and revenue generation mechanisms to have more direct contribution towards increase in fish biomass and increase in people gaining employment or better employment. In addition, the team also prioritized improving levels of LGU benchmarks from Level 1 to Level 2 thru marine spatial planning and capacity building on goal-oriented fish catch monitoring as basis for fisheries management particularly on the use of beach seine (*sahid/baling*), improved management of MPAs, compliance promotion and enforcement in general. The site team also identified strategies in sustaining EAFM implementation which included support in the expansion of Coastal Law Enforcement Council's (CLEC) collaboration to integrate all other aspects of EAFM and active involvement of people's organizations, permanent LGU employees, BFAR and the Provincial Government.

The table below summarizes the status of (O-ongoing; C-completed) of interventions and activities in the Southern Negros Island MKBA under the various deliverables.

Southern Negros Island MKBA				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Deliverable 1: Policy Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change				
Provide technical and legal assistance leading to amendment of city/municipal fisheries ordinances as a follow up activity in Negros Oriental and Occidental	O	O		
Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA				
Support the drafting of at least one (1) case study on best practices resulting from Project intervention such in the area of coastal law enforcement among others	O	O		
Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the 8 MKBAs				
Assist in the collection of existing data in the area on fisheries resources management for the national data base on EAFM	O	O		
Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted				
Support activities leading to a participatory development of posters, brochures and other collaterals that will support enforcement and other EAFM efforts	C			
Support the conduct of a series of training for Regional QRT members of regions 6 and 7 in cooperation with Danajon MKBA	C			
Support the conduct of compliance and enforcement training of inter-agency, inter-LGU law enforcement groups or task forces	O	C		

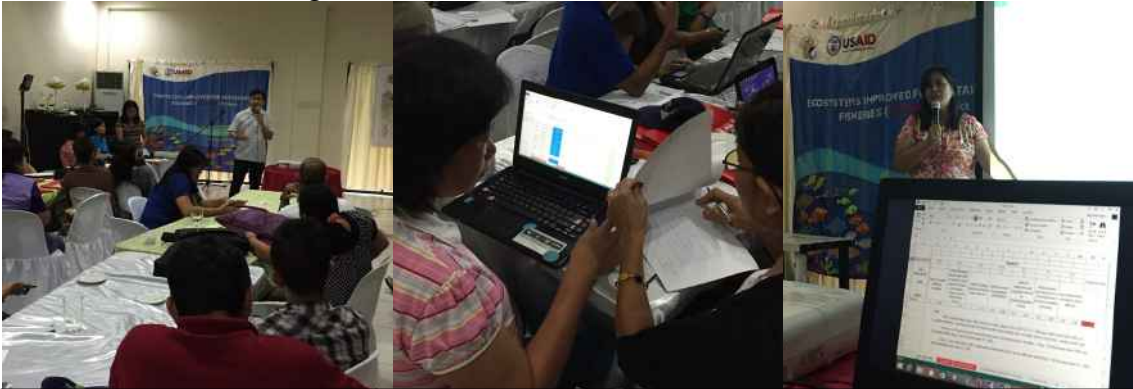
Facilitate the conduct of MSP orientation-training to focal LGUs and relevant partners (NGAs, NGOs, academe, other stakeholder groups)	C			
Facilitate the conduct of goal-oriented fish catch monitoring training for LGU technical personnel and other relevant stakeholders/partners	C			
Provide technical support in the conduct of coastal vulnerability assessment for Negros Oriental LGUs	O	C		
Provide appropriate training to the Fisheries and Aquatic Resource Management Council for Basay	C			
Support the training of Police Environment Desk Officers, prosecutors, judges and municipal enforcement teams on new fishery and relevant laws	O	O		
Facilitate EAFM benchmarking for Y3 and Y4	C			
Conduct continuous vetting under Leahy Vetting regulation of law enforcement and security personnel	O	O		
Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established				
Support activities that will expand Project Net-Works in Southern Negros	O	O		
Undertake efforts to consolidate of data collected in 11 LGUs	O			
Support activities in coordination with ZSL and ATFI regarding the introduction of Community Savings and Credit Associations (CoMSCAs)	O	O		
Support activities leading to the establishment of buying stations in coordination with ATFI	O	O		
Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs				
Facilitate presentation of the 3 rd year monitoring results to partners	O	C		
Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species				
Conduct FGD on beach seine/ baling operation with the fisherfolks and relevant stakeholders	C			
Conduct feed-backing sessions, dialogues and consultations with beach seine operators especially where women are actively involved	O	O		
Support the conduct of public consultations and workshops leading to the drafting and passage of an appropriate regulatory ordinance for beach seine operations	O	O		
Facilitate baseline assessment and support monitoring activities in areas where beach seine management intervention is to be implemented	O	O		
Support activities leading to the establishment of trophic interaction (EwE model) and simulations of fishing effort configuration				
Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs				
Support activities leading to the the establishment of new MPAs with the SNCDMC and PCV (Sta. Catalina, Hinobaan, Sipalay and Cauayan)	O	O		
Provide oversight and monitor implementation of the Special Activities Fund	O	O		
Provide administrative and technical assistance in the conduct of MEAT assessment in all MPAs	O	C		

Support the conduct of trainings for authorized guards of Andulay, Bonbonon and Salag of Siaton, among others	O	C		
Support activities leading to the establishment of MPA Network	O	O		
Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs				
Organize meetings and workshops to draft CFRM Plans of Cauayan and Basay	O	C		
Facilitate discussions and writeshops on the finalization of South Negros Inter-LGU Fisheries Management Plan (EAFM Framework Plan)	C			
Support activities leading to the development of a Marine Spatial Plan for the MKBA, such as series of workshops and consultations incorporating economic criteria in use prioritization, field validations, drafting of MSP document and related policy instruments	C			
Provide support in the re-organization of MFARMC in Cauayan	C			
Provide support and facilitate signing of revised CLEC MOU (South Negros Oriental and CFRM)	O	O		
Conduct regular updating and coordination meetings with key (core) Project partners, from the BFAR and the LGUs	O	O		
Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Provide technical and legal support in the revision of ordinance on boat and vessel registration	O	O		
Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs				
Support the conduct of a workshop to present user fee survey results in Siaton and Hinobaan	O	C		
Support the conduct of a writeshop in developing user fee ordinance for Siaton and Hinobaan	O	O		
Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Provide support to partner NGOs in enhancing and in monitoring the implementation of the SEMFISH	O	O		
Finalize and present the value chain study of tuna	O	C		

Highlights of key site-level activities/accomplishments:

- ECOFISH site team co-organized and served as resource person and facilitator in the Training on Technical Writing for Coastal Vulnerability and Mangrove Assessment Report for coastal LGUs of Negros Occidental involving 20 coastal LGUs of Negros Occidental. The main objective for this training is to build local capacity of LGU and Provincial Environment and Management Office (PEMO) in technical report writing and analysis. Each coastal LGU has drafted Coastal Vulnerability assessment (CVA) reports as input to their Comprehensive Land Use Plans (CLUPs) and a consolidated/ province wide analysis and report was done by PEMO for incorporation in the Provincial Development and Physical Framework Plan (PDPFP).

- After several rounds of review of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) of the 3rd District Coastal Law Enforcement Council (CLEC), the group intends to expand the partnership among CLEC member LGUs namely Siaton, Sta. Catalina and Bayawan City to include all aspects of Coastal Fisheries Resources Management (CFRM) and possibly with other neighboring LGUs. The proposed MOU is the creation of the BBASSDDA BAYZ Inter-LGU Alliance. The proposed change from coastal law enforcement to a wider management scope reflects the ecosystems approach to fisheries management (EAFM) and the District's openness to a bigger collaboration, i.e. mutual sharing of resources, experiences and expertise, with South Negros Oriental LGUs (Dumaguete City, Municipalities of Bacong, Dauin, Zamboangita, Siaton, Santa Catalina, Basay, Bayawan City) in partnership with the Province of Negros Oriental.



Participants during the Training on Technical Writing for Coastal Vulnerability and Mangrove Assessment Report for coastal LGUs of Negros Occidental, 06-07 October 2015

- In partnership with ATFI, fourteen POs in Negros Oriental and Occidental were assisted in terms of completing the legal requirements for the Development of Social Enterprises for Fishing Communities in the Southern Negros MKBA (SEMFISH). Their registration varies from LGU accreditation, registration at the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).
- Based on the new government ruling concerning Civil Service Organizations (CSOs), NGOs, Community-based People's Organization issued in 2015, the organizations will still have to register for accreditation with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) to be able to apply for or avail of livelihood projects from government agencies and LGUs. The team is also assisting them to complete the said registration. Fourteen assisted POs are now preparing their written business plans for the selected enterprises.
- In Southern Negros, many MPAs have been established mostly through the efforts of academic institutions, NGOs and the provincial governments of Negros Oriental and Negros Occidental. The USAID ECOFISH Project, in cooperation with these same groups and the DA-BFAR, is currently working to bring the establishment of solitary MPA units to a higher level of MPA networks where MPA effectiveness is greatly enhanced biologically - through ecological connectivity, and administratively - through unified management efforts. This is supported through the Special Activity Funds (SAF) of the Project being implemented by PRRCFI where the assistance will be directed at establishment and management of new MPAs (where potential increase in fish stocks is anticipated to be significant) and the establishment of the network of MPAs in the MKBA.



Provincial, municipal and concerned barangay officials and fisherfolk associations were invited during the series of consultations in Siaton, Sta. Catalina and Sipalay City to present the results of the underwater assessments

- An MPA baseline assessment and monitoring plan for the recommended MPA sites was also submitted by PRRCFI. Aside from providing technical assistance in the biophysical selection of new MPAs, the PRRCFI will also provide capacity building activities for concerned LGU staff and community members who will form part of the MPA management bodies. A series of trainings shall be conducted to develop the proper management for the newly established MPAs, as well as their eventual convergence into a network for Southern Negros.
- In the previous workshops, consultations and dialogues with fisherfolk and other stakeholders from the Municipality of Hinobaan and Siaton, the need to evaluate beach seine (*sahid/dalahis*) operations has been constantly raised. Together with the Office of Municipal Agriculturist, ECOFISH designed activities for the gathering and analysis of required scientific information to arrive at appropriate management recommendations for *sahid*. As preliminary activity, ECOFISH conducted a series of focus group discussions in October 2016 with *sahid/dalahis* operators in Siaton and Hinobaan.



Participants during the catch monitoring training and stakeholders consultation for the management of beach seine fisheries in South Negros MKBA at the Nabulao Beach Resort, Hinobaan composed of beach seine operators from selected barangays of Siaton and Hinobaan and technical personnel from Siaton, Sta. Catalina, Bayawan, Hinobaan and Cauayan, 04-06 November 2015.

- Catch Monitoring Training and Stakeholders Consultation for the Management of Beach Seine Fisheries in South Negros MKBA was organized on November 4-6, 2015 in Hinobaan to train beach seine operators from selected barangays of Siaton and Hinobaan, LGU technical personnel from Siaton, Sta. Catalina, Bayawan, Hinobaan and Cauayan. The main objective for this training is to build local capacity of LGUs and other partner

institutions to conduct goal-oriented monitoring of municipal fisheries catch as basis for management.

- ECOFISH facilitated the Marine Spatial Planning and Identification of Fisheries and other Sea Uses of the Municipal Waters of South Negros MKBA. This activity was designed to orient the participants from the Southern Negros LGUs on the concept of MSP and fisheries use zoning. At the same time, it served as venue to map out fisheries activities and other uses of South Negros municipal waters, evaluate spatial use conflicts, complimentary uses, and socio-economic considerations in planning.



Marine Spatial Planning and Identification of Fisheries and other Sea Uses of the Municipal Waters of South Negros MKBA, 10-12 November 2015.

- As a follow-up activity to the MSP workshop the team visited the focal persons from the 7 partner LGUs last February 9-12, 2016 to conduct key informant interview and gathered data for resource valuation as an input to the Marine Spatial Planning and to validate the draft zoning maps.



Sharing of learning and insights during the two-day visit to Southern Cebu, the participants have also identified the actions they will take in order to adopt the strategies they have learned in different aspects of Integrated Coastal Management

ECOFISH facilitated the learning visit of the Technical Working Group members of the Southern Negros Coastal Development Management Council (SNCDMC), an alliance of three Local Government Units (Hinoba-an, Cauayan and Sibalay), to Southern Cebu (South Eastern Cebu Coastal Resource Management Council and the Municipalities of Argao, Dalaguete and Oslob) on 01-03 March 2016.

- In October 27 -30, 2015, an underwater survey and assessment of the proposed MPA in Bulwagan Reef in the municipality of Hinobaan was conducted with the underwater monitoring team of the SNCDMC.



The team surveyed the benthic community, population and inventory of the various flora and fauna of the proposed Bulwagan Reef MPA in the municipality of Hinobaan. The proposed MPA has a total area of 120 hectares (70 hectares marine reserve and 50 hectares of no take zone).

- The ECOFISH site team facilitated community partners monitoring last October 21-24, 2015. Key informant interviews were facilitated with several association leaders from Pagatban United Small Fishermen’s Association(PUSFA), Lapagon Marginal Fishermen’s Association (LAMIFIA), Pagatban Small Fishermen’s Association and Villareal, Tinago, Boyco Fisherman’s Association (VITIBOFA) in Bayawan City; Cawitan Fisherfolks Association and Caranoche Mangrove Community Association (CMCA) in Sta. Catalina and Andulay Fishermen’s Association (AFA) , Palayuhan, Palinpinon, Si-it Multi-purpose Cooperative (PAPSIMCO) and San Jose Community Association in Siaton.
- The results of the underwater assessments in thee three MPAs in Siaton were presented to the concerned LGU personnel and fisherfolk association representatives during the MPA Management Planning workshop last November 17-18, 2015 at Siaton Social Hall. The said results including the 2015 MPA Management Effectiveness Assessment Tool (MEAT) were considered in identifying the priority strategies to improve fish biomass and coral cover in the three MPAs. While the socio economic household survey results were presented during the South Negros Core Group Meeting last February 15-16, 2016 in Dumaguete City which was also the basis in updating local Coastal Resource Management Plans and Comprehensive Land use Plans in some LGUs.
- In partnership with PEMO and the Philippine Reef and Rainforest Conservation Foundation (PRRCFI), the EAFM Compliance Promotion and Enforcement Training was facilitated last March 8-10, 2016 at Danjungan Island in Cauayan, Negros Occidental. This was designed for Fishery Enforcement Team Leaders/Coordinators and Police Environment Desk Officers of SNCDMC Member LGUs, TFL and BFAR Quick Response team members. ECOFISH also invited prosecutors to update them of the amended Fisheries Code, RA 10654. The main objective of this training was to build capacity of enforcement agency personnel, local enforcers and prosecutors in the state of our coastal ecosystem, improvement of their fisheries and maritime skills and ultimately come up with a joint enforcement plan to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUUF).

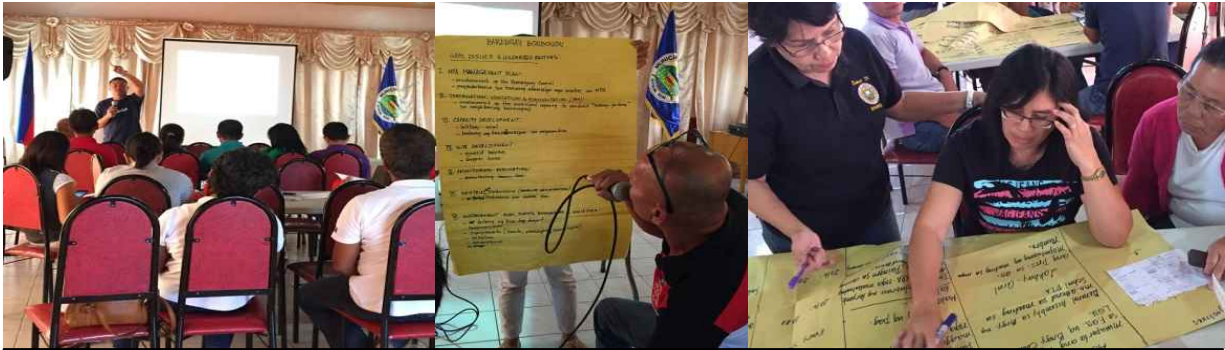
- In partnership with ENRD and LGU of Siaton, ECOFISH facilitated the MPA Management Planning workshop for the three MPAs in Siaton- Andulay, Bonbonon and Salag MPAs from November 17-18, 2015. This was attended by Fisherfolk association presidents, concerned Barangay Chairpersons, City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) and other partners. The team presented the MEAT results and underwater survey results in 2013 and 2015, provided a review of the nine critical management aspects in establishing and maintaining an effective MPA and review of the previous MPA Management Plan and identification of gaps, hindering and facilitating factors which were considered in coming up with the Vision, Mission, Goals and strategic activities in each MPA.



Various activities performed during the Compliance Promotion and Enforcement Training for the partners and stakeholders in South Negros MKBA. The training included pre-boarding and boarding procedures and practical boarding exercises.

- The site team facilitated assessment of various MPAs using MEAT from December 2015 to February 2016 and tested the Socio-economic Assessment Tool (SEAT) in the Sipalay City MPA.
- Aside from providing technical assistance in the biophysical selection of new MPAs in the South Negros MKBA, the PRRCFI also provide capacity building activities for concerned LGU staff and community members who are part of the MPA management bodies. A series of trainings were conducted to develop the proper management for the newly established MPAs, as well as their eventual convergence into a network for Southern Negros. Last March 21-22, 2016 the first of the 3 series Training on Local Governance, MPAs, and MPA Management was conducted for proposed MPAs in Siaton.
- Still in support to establishment of new MPAs, ECOFISH Project with the Municipal Agriculture Office of Sta. Catalina and Mr. Charles Taylor, Peace Corps Volunteer, joined the Council meeting of Brgy. Manalongon last February 3, 2016. The main agenda was the ordinance and budget for Manalongon MPA and the targeted activities for the year in support

of the MPA establishment.



Workshop activities during the conduct of MPA assessments using MEAT in various municipalities in the South Negros MKBA between December 2015 and February 2016..

- Aside from the six proposed MPAs assisted thru PRRCFI, ECOFISH provided support in the conduct of biophysical assessment for additional proposed MPAs in the municipalities of Siaton, Sta. Catalina and Basay in March 2016.
- For Hinobaan, the project co-organized the MPA Management Plan Review and Planning last February 18-19, 2016. Through the Bottom-Up-Budgeting (BUB) program, the LGU has availed from the Regional Office of the Department of Tourism (DOT) a project grant entitled, “Enhancement of Eco-tourism Sites in Hinoba-an” amounting to P850,000.00. The said amount will be used for funding the activities identified in the MPA Management Plan particularly on the procurement and installation of marker buoys and enhance information, education and communication (IEC) campaigns and among others. This planning session also served as venue for the conduct of assessment on the performance of the MPA Managers using MEAT and ECOFISH introduced the Socio-economic Assessment Tool (SEAT) to the participants.
- In support of the establishment of MPAs and MPA network in Southern Negros, the ECOFISH Project in partnership with the Municipality of Siaton organized an EAFM Compliance Promotion and Enforcement Training for MPA Guards from Bonbonon, Siit-Andulay and Salag last March 15-17, 2016. This training was organized to further strengthen the capabilities of each MPA especially with regards to coastal law enforcement and protection of the MPAs. Recent results of monitoring and evaluation using the MPA MEAT last September 2015 showed low scores on enforcement, sustainable financing, and community participation and among others. This was further supported by the 2015 biophysical assessment results of poor to fair live coral cover and poor to moderate fish abundance inside the MPAs.
- As requested by LGU Bayawan, ECOFISH CRS for South Negros MKBA, Ms. Galeos provided an Orientation on Protected Sharks and Rays Species in the Philippines for LGU personnel, commercial fish operators and workers and fish vendors. The objective of this activity was to orient them on the different species of sharks and rays and familiarize themselves with the regulated and banned species.
- In order to strengthen constituency building, ECOFISH has continuously supported and mentored Municipal and City Fisheries and Aquatic Resources and Management Councils (FARMCs). Aside from the project’s participation and inputs during their regular meetings, the site team also supported some of their capacity development activities. Last December 2,

2015 ECOFISH facilitated the Values Formation Seminar for the MFARMC of Basay, Negros Oriental.

- The Supplemental Fisheries Inventory in the South Negros Island was conducted last February 2016 in order to complete the fishery profile (fishing gears) of all coastal and island barangays that comprise the focal area LGUs in the said MKBA. The fisheries inventory is a crucial source of information in estimating the annual fisheries landings in the respective focal areas and is subsequently, a fundamental input in the right-sizing of fishing effort scenario simulations and workshops.
- In partnership with ATFI, 14 assisted POs in Negros Oriental and Occidental were assisted in terms of completing the legal requirements in relation to the Development of Social Enterprises for fishing communities in the Southern Negros MKBA (SEMFISH). Their registration varied from LGU accreditation, registration at the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Based on the new government ruling concerning Civil Service Organizations (CSOs), NGOs, Community based People's Organization issued last year, 2015, they still have to register for accreditation with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) to be able to apply for or avail of livelihood projects from government agencies and LGUs. The team is also assisting them to complete the said registration. These fourteen assisted POs have completed their written business plans for the selected enterprises. And some have already started technology and skills training and testing of their chosen social enterprises such as the mud crab fattening project in Sta. Catalina and Siaton.



ECOFISH team shared with partners its activities for Year 4, 2015 socio-economic survey results, revenue generation schemes, sustainable financing mechanisms, and results of value chain study on yellowfin tuna during the South Negros Core Group meeting in 15-16 February 2016.

- As one of the regular meetings organized yearly, the South Negros Core Group Meeting was conducted last in February 2016 in Dumaguete City to bring together all key players of South Negros MKBA to evaluate the past year and strategize activities for the next 18 months. The meeting also served as opportunity for ECOFISH to present highlights of Year 1-3 and its roll-out activities for Year 4, allow each LGU to assess EAFM implementation (update EAFM benchmarks, provide an overview on the 2015 socio-economic survey results, revisit revenue generation schemes and sustainable financing mechanisms, present the results and recommendations of the value chain study on yellow fin tuna, and assess the Integrated Fisheries Management Plan of South Negros MKBA and identify factors that have affected its implementation.

- With the project goal to improve the management and conservation of marine and coastal areas the team have been exploring other mechanisms so that people continue to benefit from their ecosystem services sustainably. Along with fisheries, ecotourism has been identified as one of the major uses of marine biodiversity in many of the project sites. In partnership with the Municipality of Siaton, Municipality of Hinobaan and the US Peace Corps, the team has successfully conducted a willingness to pay (WTP) survey of tourists visiting Siaton and Hinobaan Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), other snorkeling and dive sites from April to July last year, 2015. This allowed LGUs to determine the values and benefits of the marine resources for recreation purposes and subsequently came up with a potential user fee scheme where the LGU and MPA Management Bodies can largely benefit from. The WTP survey results were presented last February 17 and 18, 2016 in Hinobaan and Siaton, respectively, attended by concerned BFAR, ENRD and LGU representatives and MPA representatives and resort owners.

Unplanned activities:

- Provided orientation to PFO Basilan Staff and Tabuan Lasa officials and personnel on Dauin MPA Networks
- The EAFM Compliance Promotion and Enforcement Training for Task Force Lawod last March 8-10, 2016 was not part of the workplan for this year but PEMO has streamlined the composition of the team hence the need for a training.
- The team facilitated biophysical assessments in Brgy. Giliga-on, Siaton; Brgy. Caranoche, Sta. Catalina and Bry. Bongalonan, Basay aside from the six proposed MPAs assisted thru PRRCFI. The surveys will be charged to regular funds but follow-up activities for Siaton and Sta. Catalina will be handled by PRRCFI as part of the SAF.

Activities Not Accomplished and Why:

- QRT Operations Planning for QRT 6 and 7 will not be implemented but 5 Levels of QRT related trainings will be conducted instead.
- The Orientation for PEDOs, Prosecutors and MFLETs on RA 10654 was scheduled in October 2015 but the vetting results were only approved last March 2016.

5.6. Surigao del Norte and Surigao del Sur MKBA

The particular focus of the project in the first half of Year 4 was the capacity building for fishery law enforcement of partners, such as the regional BFAR QRT, PNP-MG, and fishery law enforcement units in the province and focal area municipalities. Through the BFAR, the project attempted to provide a venue for a dialogue between commercial fishing operators with home ports in Surigao del Norte and local stakeholders

The Project pursued collaboration with the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) in the production of coco nets, coco sugar, and virgin coconut oil as viable business enterprises and employment generating activities in Siargao Island. The Project provided support in the social

preparation and community organizing, while the PCA cover the skills and technology transfer, as well as in the provision of equipments. Similar initiatives are also being explored to cover the mainland LGUs of Surigao del Norte through strategic partnerships with other potential partners. The site team worked for the improvement of the level of governance benchmarks of focal LGUs through marine spatial planning and MPA management planning. It continued to support inter-LGU and inter-agency cooperation in fisheries management by working more closely with the HIPADA and the province.

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

Surigao del Norte – Surigao del Sur MKBA				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Deliverable 1: Policy Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change				
Support the conduct of a policy forum to tackle issues relevant to EAFM and with MKBA-wide scope, such as the intrusion of commercial fishing in municipal waters	O	O		
Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA				
Support the identification and drafting of at least one (1) case study reflecting the success and challenges of addressing issues related to EAFM, MPA management, Climate change adaptation, among others	O	O		
Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the 8 MKBAs				
Support in the conduct of MKBA-wide training on a national database system on EAFM	O	O		
Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted				
Facilitate the conduct of MSP orientation-training to focal LGUs and relevant partners (NGAs, NGOs, academe, other stakeholder groups)	C			
Provide support in the conduct of trainers’ training on participatory coastal resources assessment and bio-physical monitoring for focal LGUs and partners	O	O		
Provide support in the conduct information, education and communication, and conflict management training	O	O		
Provide support in the conduct of a series of training for BFAR-QRT (Level 2, 3, 4, 5)	O	O		
Provide support in the conduct of MPA guards training to include AMPA-supported MPA.	O	C		
Provide support in the conduct of training on the establishment of MPA Network	O	O		
Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established				
Identify potential partners that will support enterprise development interventions in the MKBA	C			

Provide support in the conduct of social preparation/organizational strengthening activities for identified PO partners in Surigao del Norte mainland and Siargao Island	O	O		
Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs				
Facilitate feed-backing of results of fisheries and bio-physical monitoring, governance benchmarking & socio-economic monitoring to partners	O	O		
Support the presentation of PCRA results & bio-physical assessment for the proposed fish sanctuaries of LGU-Placer	O	C		
Support in the conduct of periodic monitoring of coastal law compliance and enforcement	O	O		
Conduct governance benchmarking and enforcement assessment exercises	O	O		
Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species				
Conduct FGDs and consultations with relevant stakeholders in support of Siganids management strategies in concerned LGUs	C			
Support activities leading to the adoption and implementation of Siganids management in concerned LGUs, such as facilitating the conduct of IEC and consultations with broader stakeholder groups and drafting of policy instruments	O	C		
Support activities to monitor the implementation of Siganids management in concerned LGUs	O	O		
Support activities leading to the establishment of trophic interaction (EwE model) and simulations of fishing effort configuration in Surigao del Norte focal areas	O	O		
Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs				
Facilitate the conduct of hydrodynamic study and larvae dispersal modelling	O	O		
Conduct inter-LGU MPA Management Planning Workshop	O	O		
Provide support to focal LGUs and other stakeholders in identifying and selecting potential sites for MPAs	O	C		
Provide assistance to the LGUs in strengthening of MPA management committees/bodies through training, review of plans and/or review of the ordinance	O	O		
Provide technical assistance to the POs through the LGUs in the implementation of MPA or fish sanctuary management plans	O	O		
Provide assistance in the conduct of training for authorized MPA guards in collaboration with the LGU and regular enforcement agencies.	O	C		
Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs				
Facilitate finalization of the draft Provincial CRM Framework Plan	O	O		
Facilitate the preparation, documentation and execution of fisheries Management Plans to focal LGUs	O	O		
Conduct consultations with HIPADA-LGUs on the drafting and formulation of coastal and fisheries resources management plans to include municipal water boundaries		O		
Provide support in the establishment or strengthening of Province-wide coastal law enforcement initiative	O	O		

Provide support to activities leading to the development of a Marine Spatial Plan for the MKBA, such as series of workshops and consultations incorporating economic criteria in use prioritization, field validations, drafting of MSP document and related policy instruments	O	O		
Provide support in the creation and strengthening of municipal coastal law enforcement teams	O	O		
Provide venue for regular meeting of partners and focal LGU stakeholders in the MKBA	O	O		
Organize orientation workshop on right-sizing of fishing effort and subsequent consultations				
Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Provide assistance to BFAR and focal LGUs in implementing the FishR and the BoatR	O	C		
Facilitate the review and updating of municipal fisheries registration and licensing system (for those LGUs with existing registration and licensing systems) to incorporate provisions that will complement the FishR and BoatR programs of BFAR	O	C		
Assist focal LGUs in the preparation / presentation of draft ordinance on municipal fishing vessel registration to FARMCs/SBs	O	O		
Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs				
Assist key LGUs in setting up of a collection system for auxiliary invoices, and in the review of existing systems		C		
Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Conduct social preparation and provide CO assistance to select POs in key LGUs in Siargao Island in collaboration with the PCA	O	O		
Conduct social preparation for select POs in key/focal mainland LGUs	O	C		
Coordination with local officials, POs, local NGOs, and other stakeholders in preparation for the workshop and consultation on sustainable financing programs	O	C		
Support the initiation of an awards and recognition system for best managed marine protected areas	O	O		

Highlights of key site-level activities/accomplishments:

- To strengthen the capacity and capability of the coastal law enforcers in Surigao del Norte particularly on handling fisheries-related cases, the ECOFISH Project conducted BFAR Fishery Law Enforcement Quick Response Capacity and Team Building (Para-Legal Training) to BFAR-QRT personnel and partner CLE agencies such as Philippine National Police/PNP-Maritime Group, PNP-Special Action Force, and the enforcement team of the focal LGUs. The enforcers were trained on how to handle cases from gathering of evidence, preservation of evidence and proper protocol on case filing. Also part of the



(Left) Coastal law enforcers from BFAR-FLEQRT, PNP/PNP-MG, SAF and local enforcers pose during the BFAR Fishery Law Enforcement Quick Response Capacity and Team Building (Para-Legal Training) together with resource persons and BFAR Regional Director Nerio G. Casil; (Right) Consultation-Dialogue with Judge Calderon and Prosecutor Miel together with the coastal law enforcers from BFAR and partner agencies.

training was the consultation dialogue between law enforcers and judicial authorities. All legal queries were discussed with highlights on RA 10654 the new Fisheries Code of Philippines and setting-up of environmental court in the Province/Region. These will raise the level of confidence among enforcers in handling of the paralegal aspect of their duties and responsibilities and continuous coordination and linkage between and among law enforcement agencies

- For the enterprise development interventions in Surigao del Norte, the ECOFISH Project together with BFAR and in collaboration with the Provincial Agriculture Office facilitated the Training on Ecosystem-Friendly on Mudcrab Production for Surigao del Norte. The activity was participated by selected POs and LGU personnel from the municipalities of Del Carmen, Dapa, Sta. Monica, San Isidro and Pilar in Siargao Island and mainland municipalities of Tagana-an, Bacuag and Gigaquit. Highlights of the training was the inputs from the resource person on the alternative feeding scheme which use of certain vegetables like squash and shellfish endemic in the area, as alternative food for mud crabs, instead of trash fish. The recipient POs also formulated their one (1) year work and financial plan identifying potential agencies like BFAR, BUB and DSWD-Sustainable Livelihood Program as of source of funds for the mudcrab project.

- The ECOFISH Project Surigao del Norte together with the Community Partnership Specialist conducted series of social preparation activities in Surigao Norte. Among of these interventions were the Training on the Formulation of Vision, Mission, Goals and Organizational Plan, Leadership and Gender Sensitivity Training. These are continuing support to strengthen the capacity and capability of selected POs in Siargao Island and



Officers of selected POs in mainland and Siargao Island during the Training on the Formulation of Vision, Mission, Goals and Leadership and Gender Sensitivity Training

mainland in the implementation of their enterprise development livelihood projects. The POs were trained on how to develop their individual VMG that will guide their organizations. Officers were also trained on how to handle and manage their organizations and roles of women in the organizations and communities.

- Facilitated Orientation-Workshop on Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) and Identification of Fisheries and Other Uses of the Municipal Waters of Focal LGUs in Surigao del Norte. The activity was participated by around more or less 50 participants composed of Municipal Agriculturist, AT-Fisheries, Municipal Planning Officers, Municipal Engineers, SB on Agriculture and Fisheries, SB on Environment, C/MFARMCs from the focal LGUs of Surigao City, Tagana-an, Placer, Bacuag, Gigaquit and Claver, and representative from partner agencies from Hinatuan Passage Development Alliance (HIPADA), BFAR/PFO, PAO, DILG, PPA, and DENR. Among the highlights were the formulation of draft municipal water zoning maps that will soon be validated and also identified further steps and activities to institute and finalize the marine spatial plan for the focal LGUs of Surigao del Norte MKBA.
- Facilitated Organizational Planning and Leadership Training for selected POs in Siargao Island of Surigao del Norte. The activity was participated by around forty (40) participants from selected POs of Tigasao Fisherfolk Association, San Isidro Womens Organization, Purok 5 Inland Fishery Association, Alegria Fisherfolk Association, Magsaysay Farmers and Fisherfolk Association, KAMAMANA, DELCASAMAMA, Sta. Felomina Farmers and Fisherfolk Association and Nagkahiusang Mag-uuma og Mananagat sa Union (NAMAUN). One of the highlights of the activity, was the formulation of one (1) year organizational plan that includes activities that capacitates their organization and

identified livelihood supports.



BFAR PFO Emillo Gulle welcome the participants for the Orientation-Workshop on Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) and Identification of Fisheries and Other Uses of the Municipal Waters of Focal LGUs in Surigao del Norte. Participants formulated their municipal water zoning maps in one of the workshops.

- Meeting with Provincial Agriculture Office (PAO) and Provincial Environment and Management Office (PEMO) for the institutionalization of the Provincial Coastal Law Enforcement Task Force and the finalization of the Provincial CRM Framework Plan. Also discussed were the priority activities and interventions of ECOFISH Project for Year 4 in Surigao del Norte.
- Attended and participated in the Hinatuan Passage Development Alliance (HIPADA) Council Meeting held in San Francisco, Surigao del Norte. The ECOFISH Project presented highlights and accomplishments to the Council composed of Mayors and the composite technical advisory group. Presented the draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between ECOFISH Project and HIPADA for collaboration of efforts in the implementation of the Project to its member municipalities.
- Participated in the BFAR Fisheries Regulatory Enforcement and Management Division Monthly Meeting held in Butuan City. The Project presented its accomplishment and milestones on coastal law enforcement for Surigao del Norte. Updated schedule of activities and Project's commitment in providing capacity and capability building to BFAR FLeQRT personnel.

- In line with the on-going social preparation activities, ECOFISH Project facilitated Financial Management Training to selected POs on February 16-17 in Gigaquit and February 19-20 in Siargao Island. Participants were trained on simple bookkeeping, entry of financial transactions, and formulation of cash flows and inventory of assets using their existing incomes from their business and livelihoods. The trained POs were beneficiaries of the social enterprise on mudcrab fattening and coco-coir production assisted by the Project and in collaboration with BFAR and Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA).



Siargao Island and Mainland POs formulate and present their financial management plan outputs during the Financial Management Training to selected POs of Surigao del Norte. The ECOFISH Project provided the social preparation activities as part of the social enterprise development interventions in Surigao Norte.

- Participated in the Consultative Meeting with Commercial/Municipal Fishing Operators using Modified Danish Seine or locally known as “liba-liba” with LGU-Placer Officials, MAO, Philippine Coast Guard, BFAR & PNP local station. Around twenty (20) fishing operators attended the meeting held in Training Center, Placer, Surigao del Norte. The LGU-Placer officials headed by Mayor Felimon Napuli, the Chief of Police and BFAR FLeQRT personnel emphasized that the use of Danish seine is totally banned in the Philippine waters and that includes the municipal and national waters based on BFAR’s



Mr. Manuel Narvadez, the Regulatory and Enforcement Specialist of ECOFISH Project and BFAR FLeQRT personnel present some highlights of FAO 246 and RA 10654 in relation to the banning on the operation of Danish seine or locally known as “liba-liba” in the Philippine waters.

Fisheries Administrative Order No. 246 series of 2013 and even in RA 8550. As an agreement, the LGU-Placer and BFAR thru the Bottom-up-Budgeting (BuB) Program will

provide alternative livelihood support and provision of legal fishing gears/nets to affected operators and workers.

- In collaboration with HIPADA, PNP-MG, PAO and BFAR, conducted Marine Protected Area (MPA) Guards Training on March 1-3, 2016 at Women’s Training Center, Gigaquit, Surigao del Norte. Around 50 participants composed of MPA Guards from focal site LGUs and including LGU San Francisco, AT-Fisheries, BFAR and PNP-MG personnel attended the training. Participants were trained and assessed on the status of their MPAs in terms of promotion compliance and enforcement, basic tenets on guarding an MPA, use of maps, GPS and nautical charts, and development of individual MPA enforcement plans.



(Left) Site Coordinator for Surigao Norte MKBA facilitate the discussion on the issues encountered by MPA guards on the enforcement. (Right) SPO1 Rochelle Bakingkito of PNP-Maritime Group present strategies and approaches on how to be effective in guarding marine protected areas

- In collaboration with LGU-Del Carmen, SIKAT Foundation, PNP Provincial Police Office, Philippine Coast Guard, PNP-Maritime Group, local media and BFAR facilitated Stakeholders Round-Table Discussion on Illegal Fishing Issues in Surigao del Norte on March 4, 2016 held at Hotel Tavern, Surigao City. The Project spearheaded the discussion tackling illegal fishing issues particularly the rampant intrusion of commercial fishing “liba-liba” to the municipal waters of Del Carmen. LGU-Del Carmen thru the SIKAT presented some scenarios issues encountered by their bantay dagat; among of which is the non-compliance/assistance of territorial police to enforcement, commercial fishers were heavily armed, and issues on sabotaging operations by BFAR FLe QRT personnel. Each partner agencies provided their comments and resolutions to the raised issues. Among the agreed resolutions were the formation of an inter-agency coastal law enforcement task force thru the Province. ECOFISH will provide assistance in the formation of the task force including the drafting of an Executive Order and MOA. Also agreed is the joint inter-agency commercial fishing vessel inspection to ports of Placer and Socorro.
- Conducted EAFM Compliance Promotion and Enforcement Training for BFAR Fishery Law Enforcement Quick Response Team and partner enforcement agencies (Maritime Law Enforcement Training) on March 7-9, 2016 at Hotel Tavern, Surigao City. The training is Level 3 capacity and capability building provided by the Project to BFAR Fishery Law Enforcement Quick Response Team and partner agencies. On the training, participants were trained and equipped on the maritime law enforcement in particular: navigation and seamanship, use of nautical chart and GPS in coastal law enforcement activities, procedures and techniques in vessel search and ship boarding, basic laws on gathering and preserving of evidence, and chain of custody on case filing. The training

provided venue to build rapport among BFAR FLeQRT and partner enforcement agencies.

- Meeting with Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) for the social enterprise on coco-coir production for selected LGUs in Siargao Island and Mainland of Surigao del Norte. It was



(Left) Atty. Gerry Maglante presents the legal procedures on conducting search, boarding, seizure and chain of custody on filing of cases for fishery law violations. (Right) PSUPT Oliver Tanseco of PNP-HPG assisted participants composed of PNP, PNP-MG PCG, PN, BFAR FLeQRT and LGU representatives on how to use nautical charts and plotting GPS coordinates.

participated by the Provincial Manager of PCA and its provincial focal person and representative from Regional Office. The ECOFISH Project provided updates to PCA on the status of social preparation activities including the number of identified POs to undertake the said enterprise. Discussions were focused on the signed Memorandum of Understanding between PCA and ECOFISH. Come-up some agreements and schedules for rolling-out the interventions, which includes: PCA will provide temporarily 3 weaving machines and 30 twining machines for the 3 POs. It was also agreed that by 2017, they will allocate funds for the purchase of machines to accommodate additional POs. ECOFISH will continue its commitment on providing social preparation activities as counterpart. Meanwhile, PCA & ECOFISH will also look for other organizations like Socorro Empowered Multi-Purpose Cooperative (SOEMCO) as consolidator for the said enterprise.

- Attended DENR PAMB Executive Committee Meeting on March 30, 2016 at Dapa, Siargao Island, Surigao del Norte. Presented ECOFISH Project updates and collaborations on coastal law enforcement with B+WISER Project especially on how to complement the LAWIN and DALOY application on reporting environmental and fishery laws violations.

Issues and Concerns:

- For Surigao del Norte, the intrusion of commercial fishing vessels in municipal waters particularly the “liba-liba” remains the main enforcement issue in the site. Although the issues were raised to the Provincial level, still, strong political support from the LCEs and the Provincial Government were still needed. Unfortunately, initiatives and undertakings were hampered due to upcoming election. The Project is pushing and providing assistance to the Province in the creation of Task Force.
- For the social enterprise development on mudcrab fattening, BFAR’s allocation is centered on aqua-silviculture projects and no funds for mudcrab fattening. Although, BFAR Regional

Director signified its commitment to support the intervention, still, BFAR will study on how to accommodate the mudcrab fattening enterprise for partner POs. BFAR will provide for the materials needed for the crab cages including the stock crabs for fattening. Also, for the coco-coir production, PCA can only provide 1 decorticating machine, 3 weaving machines and 30 twining machines for 3 POs for Surigao del Norte. These are not enough considering that there were 8 identified POs for Siargao and mainland.

5.7. Sulu Archipelago MKBA

In the first half of Year 4, the Project focused on supporting initiatives that will promote voluntary compliance to fishery laws, rules, and regulations in the focal areas as well as in supporting the BFAR-ARMM, and the local government in their enforcement efforts by means of training and mentoring. Owing to access and security issues in areas such as Sapa-Sapa, South Ubian, and Tandubas, the Project worked primarily with the Municipal Fishery Coordinators, police, and security forces during field work. In Year 4, the FATWA will be revived and planned to be expanded to cover other areas and popularized by developing popular media products. The project also focused on the use of radio as the principal media for popularizing fisheries resource management initiatives.

The table below summarizes the status of (O-ongoing; C-completed) of interventions and activities in the Sulu Archipelago MKBA under the various deliverables.

Sulu Archipelago MKBA				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Deliverable 1: Policy Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change				
Support the conduct of symposiums, forums and round table discussions about pressing and emerging issues on EAFM, MPA and Climate Change in coordination with academe and PLGU	O	O		
Support the formulation of relevant ordinances and other legal instruments	O	O		
Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA				
Support the development of at least one case study highlighting peculiarity of the place with respect to implementing fisheries management/EAFM	O	O		
Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the 8 MKBAs				
Support activities relative to training technical staff on the use of the data base	O	O		
Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted				
Initiate and support revival of discussions about the FATWA through roundtable discussions and forums	O	O		
Collaborate with the Tawi-Tawi Islamic Development Center and other relevant groups and individuals formulating strategies to popularize the FATWA in the focal areas	O	O		
Support the development of information, education and communication products on the FATWA and its relation to EAFM.	O	O		

Support the training of BFAR-ARMM Quick Response Team as well as the BFAR Fishery Law Enforcement Team assigned in Tawi	O	O		
Support the conduct of a Bar, Badge, Bench Conference in Bongao to discuss legal, paralegal and metalegal issues involved in fishery enforcement	O	O		
Support the conduct of series of coastal law enforcement trainings for regular and deputized enforcers in the focal areas	O	O		
Support the establishment and mobilization of an inter-agency, inter-local and multi-sectoral enforcement group through training and coaching	O	O		
Facilitate the conduct of MSP orientation-training to focal LGUs and relevant partners (NGAs, NGOs, academe, other stakeholder groups)		O		
Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established				
Support activities and initiatives in the scoping for community partnerships in focal areas	O	O		
Explore other means of public-private sector partnership in the focal area to support EAFM work	O	O		
Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs				
Support the training of community partners and trainers in preparation for the conduct of PCRA in the new focal sites	O	O		
Undertake preparatory work for the PCRA team to consider technical and administrative preparations	O	O		
Support the conduct of PCRA in South Ubian, Tandubas, Sapa-Sapa	O	O		
Support the conduct of a regular monitoring of enforcement conditions based on baselines established during FISH Project	O	O		
Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species				
Support activities leading to the refinement of trophic interaction (EwE model) and simulations of fishing effort configuration in Tawi-tawi Bay focal area	O	O		
Support activities such as forum and round table discussions to identify possible species or gears that require regulation and/or management focus	O	O		
Provide technical assistance in the collection of information to support gear or species specific regulations and/or management		O		
Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs				
Provide support that will strengthen cohesion of Tawi-Tawi Bay Fish Sanctuary Alliance including its promotion	O	O		
Support activities in MPA sites-selection to ensure inclusion of mangrove habitats and keystone species, as well as sites with high potential to support the MPA network on the whole	O	O		
Support the popularization of MPAs or their network with the aim of generating constituency within and outside the focal areas		O		
Support the conduct of a series of MPA guards training including a trainers' training	O	O		
Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs				

Provide support to activities that lead to the development of a Marine Spatial Plan for the MKBA, including a series of workshops and consultations incorporating economic criteria in use prioritization, field validations, municipal water boundary delineation, drafting of MSP document and related policy instruments	O	O		
Support the conduct of Inter-LGU Fisheries Management Planning involving focal areas	O	O		
Facilitate provision of technical support for both regular and deputized enforcers of LGUs (former FISH focal LGUs and new focal LGUs)	O	O		
Provide support in the establishment and strengthening of a Province-wide, inter-LGU and inter-agency coastal and fishery law enforcement team	O	O		
Conduct regular meetings of key partners and stakeholders from the BFAR, PNP and LGUs to strengthen inter-agency collaboration	O	O		
Organize orientation workshop on right-sizing of fishing effort focal LGU partners				
Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Provide support to the BFAR-ARMM/PFO in the implementation of the FishR and BoatR	O	O		
Support the conduct of public fora and meetings to assess and monitor the implementation of the FishR and BoatR	O	O		
Provide support in the popularization and dissemination of registration and licensing system	O	O		
Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs				
Support the conduct of RTD to explore market-based financing instruments with government and business stakeholders in Tawi	O	O		
Identify other projects, donors or initiatives in the Province or outside of the Province with potentials to generate incomes from sustainable fisheries practice	O	O		
Support activities, initiatives or programs of government, non-government or multilateral organizations that promote income generation within focal area communities	O	O		
Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Facilitate in the identification of potential partner/s for enterprise development	O	O		
Support activities related to promoting the results of the value chain and ensuing policies	O	O		

Highlights of key site-level activities/accomplishments:

- Conducted perception survey, information education campaign in the municipality of South Ubian, Sapa-Sapa and Tandubas for the establishment of marine protected areas. As observed, fish catches are still in good but dynamite and compressor fishing particularly are beginning to be rampant. People are open for the MPA establishment but they expect

support in drafting the legal instrument, enforcement, and infrastructure like guardhouse and pumpboat.

- Conducted Maritime Law Enforcement Training for BFAR FLEQRT-ARMM. The purpose of the training was to improve BFAR/ARMM (QRT) and PNPMG (RMU and MSOU) collaboration in enforcing fishery laws in ARMM waters. Training activities included elements of search, arrest and seizure, investigation, custody of evidence, affidavit making, operations planning and orientation on the revised Fisheries Code R.A. 10654



Participants and instructors during the first leg of the Maritime Law Enforcement Training for BFAR Quick Response Team. The training was designed to improve collaboration between enforcement agencies (including PNPMG and MSOU) and basics of fishery law enforcement.

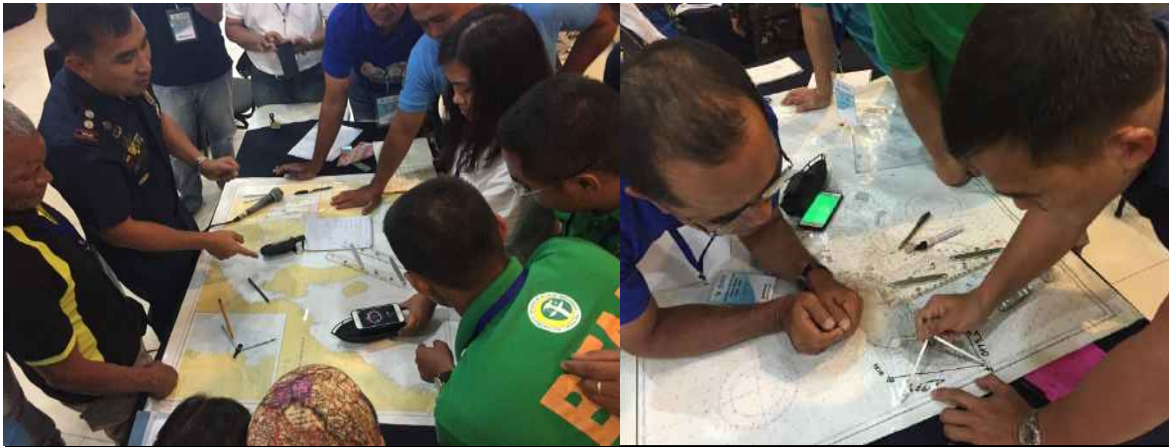
- Supported the enhanced version of the 700DALOY platform prototyped by SMART according to the specifications requested by the PNPMG and its users. A soft launch was held at the PNP Regional Maritime Unit 9, on March 15, 2016 with USAID Philippines Mission Director Dr Susan Brems as guest of honor.



Launching of the PN-PMG's DALOY platform for text message reporting of fisheries and coastal law violations. Dr Susan Brems, USAID/Philippines Mission Director was the guest of honor.

- Initial discussion with MPDC of South Ubian and Sapa-Sapa together with BFAR provincial staff regarding the MPAs to be established in the three expansion municipalities.
- Conducted meeting with ECOFISH partners to present the Sulu Archipelago MKBA 2016 work plan and discussed priority and doable activities for the next eleven months.
- Exploratory meeting with the Tawi-Tawi Family Life Foundation, Inc regarding possible social enterprises and livelihood activities.

- Conducted the second leg of the Maritime Law Enforcement Training for BFAR FLEQRT-ARMM. The purpose of the training was to equip the participants with basic technical skills in marine law enforcement such as navigation and seamanship, chart work, GPS proficiency, vessel search, and shipboard arrest techniques.



Police Superintendent Oliver Tanseco explaining the basic navigation concepts for coastal law enforcers and facilitating the chart plotting exercises during the second leg of the BFAR QRT Training on Maritime Law Enforcement.

- Meeting with schools, municipal fisheries coordinators of BFAR, and BFAR Provincial Officer on the activities lined up for the Fish Conservation Week.
- Dialogue with PNP-Maritime Group Director PCSUPT Efren M. Perez, partners, and stakeholders in Tawi-Tawi at Rachel’s Place Hotel and Restaurant.



Police Chief Superintendent Efren Perez and participants during the stakeholders consultation and dialogue in Bongao, Tawi-Tawi.

- Meeting with Chairman of Agriculture and Fisheries of Panglima Sugala on Municipal Law Enforcement Team activities, reactivation of the radio program on environment, and MPA assessment for additional MPAs in Panglima Sugala.

- Courtesy call of ECOFISH’s Fishery Law Compliance and Enforcement Specialist, Jun Narvadez, and BFAR focal person for ECOFISH with the Tawi-Tawi provincial officials. The meeting also included a revisit of the Tawi-Tawi Environmental Code and other coastal resources management activities.



Participants of the ECOFISH sponsored seminars on Radio as Medium for Promoting Compliance and Enforcement of Maritime Laws in Tawi-Tawi participated in by media practitioners and law enforcement personnel. They were conducted in February and in March 2016.

- Co-facilitated the Municipal Law Enforcement Team meeting of Panglima Sugala including orientation on AMPA and EAFM benchmarking.
- Attended BFAR meeting with MSOU and PNP-MG’s RMU-ARMM regarding seaborne patrol plan.
- Conducted seminar on “Radio as Medium for Promoting Compliance and Enforcement of Maritime Laws” on February 24, 2016 and March 17, 2016, with the aim of developing materials for the two radio programs that the Project would fund for the PNPMG and BFAR and identification of personnel, preferably from the PNPMG, to host and run the two programs.



ECOFISH site team and BFAR Provincial Fisheries Office staff participated in the Medical Mission in Panglima Sugala in March 2016. The team conducted IEC campaign and discussed the importance of a healthy fisheries and marine environment to the community.

- Participated in the Medical Mission commissioned by the LGU of Panglima Sugala particularly in the barangays Belatan Halo and Balingbing respectively. The ECOFISH

Project and BFAR/PFO presented the importance of fisheries and other marine environment in the area and conduct IEC awareness campaign.

5.8. Verde Island Passage MKBA

The table below summarizes the status of (O-ongoing; C-completed) of interventions and activities in the Verde Island Passage MKBA under the various deliverables.

Verde Island Passage MKBA				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Deliverable 1: Policy Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change				
Provide support in the formulation/amendments/approval of local ordinances for the 2 nd round of Seasonal Closure in Balayan Bay	C			
Support activities relative to the approval of the CRM Code of Mabini	O	C		
Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA				
Assist in writing and documenting best practices that involve CLE teams in MPAs, disaster risk reduction, registration, zoning and other EAFM elements	O	O		
Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the 8 MKBAs				
Assist in the collection/updating of existing fisheries data in the area for incorporation into the national EAFM data base	O	O		
Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted				
Identify and facilitate the participation of qualified candidates for Fish examiners' Training Course at the National level	O	O		
Facilitate the conduct of basic coastal law enforcement trainings for the provincial -police office (COPs, investigators)	O	O		
Conduct series of CLE Trainings for QRT members of BFAR 4A	O	O		
Assist in the conduct of Information, Education and Communication	O	O		
Facilitate Wildlife Enforcement Training for Bantay Dagat and Fishery Technician/Staff	O	O		
Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established				
Assist in the promotion and implementation of a national public reporting system	O	O		
Assist in the identification and coordination with potential private groups/institutions for possible partnerships for the 2 nd round of Balayan Bay closed season and long-term partnership.	O	C		
Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs				
Assist the LGU of Taal in the conduct of Bio-physical survey of the proposed MPA	O	C		

Assist the LGU of San Luis in presenting the results of the bio-physical survey conducted in the proposed MPA to different stakeholders in the municipality	O	O		
Assist in the conduct of periodic monitoring of coastal law compliance and enforcement	O	O		
Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species				
Conduct consultative meetings in preparation for the 2 nd round of Balayan Bay closed season	C			
Conduct FGDs with Seiners also in preparation for the 2 nd Round of Balayan Bay closed season	C			
Facilitate the development of IEC materials for the 2 nd Balayan Bay closed season	C			
Conduct preliminary study on the methods of “magdudulong” (seines)	C			
Identify and train Enumerators for the fish catch monitoring in Calatagan, Balayan, Lemery and Lubang Island	O	C		
Support activities leading to the development of trophic interaction (EwE model) and simulations of fishing effort configuration in Balayan Bay with particular focus on the small pelagics fishery	O	O		
Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs				
Conduct orientation, consultation and site selection of potential new MPAs in Taal and San Luis	C			
Facilitate strengthening of MPA management committees	O	O		
Provide assistance in the conduct of MPA evaluation and assessment for areas with existing MPAs or network of MPAs	O	O		
Provide assistance in drafting an MPA Ordinance for San Luis and Taal	O	O		
Assist the LGUs of Bauan and San Luis to come up with measures for the joint management of the MPAs within their boundaries.	O	O		
Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs				
Provide technical assistance and coordination toward the formulation and finalization of an Inter-LGU Fisheries Management Plan (including LGU revisits, consultations, updating of planned activities, drafting of the Plan)	O	O		
Facilitate site validation, conduct of consultations and writeshop for drafting, refinement, finalization and adoption of the Marine Spatial Plan incorporating newly specified economic criteria	O	O		
Provide venue to orient and update Project partners and stakeholders on the status of Project implementation	O	O		
Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Update and review of existing registration and licensing systems	O	O		
Assist the LGUs in implementing FishR and BoatR	O	O		
Conduct of inter-agency and/or inter-LGU meetings related to municipal vessel registration	O	O		
Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs				

Assist in the development of sustainable financing schemes with partner LGUs (particularly on user's fees, resource rents for mangroves and beaches, environmental fees, aquaculture and mariculture projects and other related projects)	O	O		
Assist in the identification avenues for replication of other users' fee schemes	O	O		
Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Assist in the implementation of sustainable financing programs (PUSOD and AIM)	O	O		
Assist in the conduct of business planning workshops and documentation of the pilot testing of enterprises developed	O	O		
Assist in the implementation of capacity building activities including trainings on financial management to POs (SAF recipients and AIM assisted)	O	C		
Conduct trainings on gender sensitivity to People's Organization in select focal areas	O	O		

Highlights of key site-level activities/accomplishments:

- ECOFISH convened all stakeholders in developing OPLAN Bantay Look Balayan and Talin in preparation for the Seasonal Fisheries Closure in 2015. Only six (Bauan, Taal, Calatagan, Calaca, Mabini and Tingloy) of the 11 participating LGUs were able to ratify their SB Ordinances on Seasonal Fisheries Closure for 2016-2020. In this round of the seasonal closure implementation, cash for work incentive by the DSWD for affected fishers was no longer provided. This cast doubts on the success of the intervention. To maintain the gains of the previous years seasonal closure, the local executives decided to proceed with the initiative and enforced the provisions in the Fisheries Code (R.A. 8550 as amended by R.A. 10654) of the country. In addition, the Provincial Government's Sangguniang Panlalawigan passed a resolution supporting the six (6) years implementation of the seasonal closure.



PNP participants during the training to improve knowledge and skills in apprehension, handling of evidences related to the implementation of fishery and coastal laws in Batangas Province

- ECOFISH provided technical assistance in the capacity building of PNP personnel assigned in the LGUs in Balayan Bay to improve compliance to fishery laws. The training was aimed to equip PNP personnel with knowledge and skills in apprehension and handling of evidences related to the implementation of environmental and coastal and marine laws.
- The project provided technical assistance to the Balayan Bay LGUs in the fish catch data collection and reproductive biology study to monitor the biological effect of the seasonal



Enumerators trained by ECOFISH for the conduct of fish catch data collection and reproductive biology to monitor the biological effect of the seasonal closure for small pelagics in Balayan Bay.

fisheries closure for small pelagics in Balayan Bay.

- The site team and thematic leads provided support to the PGENRO in conducting consultation meetings with various municipalities in the implementation of the seasonal



Consultation with LGUs regarding the seasonal closure for small pelagics in Balayan Bay for the month of December 2015

fisheries closure for small pelagics in Balayan Bay scheduled for December 2015.

- The team also attended public hearings of the Sanguniang Bayan of various Balayan Bay LGUs during the process of deliberation and enactment of the ordinance for the closure. The team served as resource persons during the public hearings and deliberations.

- The BERT OPLAN Workshop for 2015 was conducted at Matabungkay Resort. It was attended by the PNP BPPO, PNP-MG, PCG, 11 Participating LGUs and their Bantay Dagat, PAF, BFAR Region IVA QRT and ECOFISH headed by PGENRO. The 2 day event focused on strategic operational plans for the upcoming Seasonal Closure or the Operation Bantay Look Balayan and Talin. The members of the Tactical Operation Center were identified as well as its location. Logistics and support for the operation were also discussed during this activity.



Awarding ceremonies for the 2nd Batangas Recognition Awards for Verde Island Passage Outstanding Marine Protected Area and Bantay Dagat Group for 2015. The first prize for the Best Bantay Dagat group was awarded to Bantay Dagat of Tingloy and their Chairman Reynaldo Manalo with MAO Teodora Mendoza received the awards (left photo). The Best MPA for Category 1 was awarded to Malabrigo MPA of LGU Lobo and Category 2 LGU Calatagan (right photo).

- The 2nd Batangas Recognition Awards for Verde Island Passage Outstanding Marine Protected Area and Bantay Dagat Group for 2015 was held at Pontefino Hotel and Residences. Coastal LGUs of the Province of Batangas were invited to the event. Partners of PGENRO also attended the awarding ceremony, namely: First Gen, MALAMPAYA Foundation, CI-Phils, ECOFISH and BFAR Region IVA.
- ECOFISH provided technical assistance to LGU Taal and San Luis in the establishment of their MPAs. Reef check assessment and formulation of MPA Ordinance were initiated.
- A quality control quality assurance was conducted for the four locations



The site coordinator received the recognition award for ECOFISH for its role in the planning and implementation of the seasonal closure for small pelagics in Balayan Bay. The award was given during the 65th Anniversary of the DSWD Region 4-A

Lemery, Balayan, Calatagan and Lubang, Occidental Mindoro to monitor the reproductive biology study being conducted.

- ECOFISH participated in the 65th Anniversary of DSWD Region IV-A to receive a recognition award for its role in the seasonal closure for small pelagics in Balayan Bay.
- Conducted the Bantay Look Balayan Assessment with PGENRO, CI, BFAR 4A, PNP BPPO, PNP MG, PCG and partner LGUs in the 11 coastal municipalities who participated in the recently concluded Bantay Look Balayan 2015.
- Provided technical and logistical assistance to BFAR Region 4-A and Provincial Fisheries Office in the conduct of a Joint Mobile Registration and Licensing (JMRL) for the Commercial Fishing Vessels in Lemery, Batangas last January 21-22, 2015
- The site team participated the Business Planning Training conducted by ACSENT (Ateneo Center for Socio Enterprise) and PUSOD Inc. ECOFISH team assisted in the drafting of business plans for the participating LGUs (Lemery, Taal, Mabini and Bauan).
- ECOFISH made a courtesy call to the new BFAR 4A Regional Director Willy Cruz and ARG Virgie Bartolome. The team provided orientation about the project and update on the BFAR QRT Training for the region.
- The site team hosted the visit of Jan Auman, President of Tetra Tech International Development Service and Glen Simpson, Group Executive for the International Development of Coffey.
- ECOFISH convened a writeshop to draft the Marine Spatial Plan of Balayan Bay. This was participated in by 9 LGUs in the focal area of the project. The two-day writeshop included the review and update of zoning maps, revision and refinement of the activity guidelines, and the drafting of the expanded outline of the Marine Spatial Plan. A technical working group was created to oversee the completion of the plan.
- ECOFISH participated and co-facilitated the joint MPA Network and BERT meeting for the Province of Batangas. This was participated in by MPA councils, Bantay Dagat members, municipal officials, provincial officials and national agencies.



Participants and activities during the Marine Spatial Planning Writeshop for the municipal waters of Balayan Bay conducted in March 2016.

6. Performance Synopsis

Table 3 summarizes the major performance indicators, life of project targets, Year 4 targets, actual accomplishments to date, and percentage of accomplishment to date of the ECOFISH Project.

As in previous annual and semi-annual reports, the project has exceeded targets for the first half of Year 4. The number of national and local EAFM training courses conducted, number of persons trained, and number of person-hours of training have exceeded the targets. Some sites are more advanced than others and training activities intended for later years, such as planning for network of MPAs and spatial planning, were requested by partners to be conducted ahead of intended schedule. The number of hectares of municipal waters under improved management has also exceeded the target. The team underestimated starting levels of fisheries management initiatives in the former FISH project sites and presumed that they have declined since the termination of that project in 2010. It was likewise assumed that the four new sites would have very low levels of fisheries management capabilities and interventions.

At the request of BFAR, ECOFISH provided technical and facilitation support for the updating of the Comprehensive National Fisheries Industry Development Plan. More than 500 participants representing all sectors of the fisheries industry and local governments took part in the review and amendment process in successive workshops over three months. The updated CNFIDP was launched in February 3, 2016. At the launching event, BFAR gave USAID a plaque of appreciation for its continuing support to BFAR. The award was received by Mr. Michael Klecheski, Deputy Chief of Mission of the US Embassy.

An enhanced version of the 700DALOY platform was commissioned and prototyped by SMART according to the specifications requested by the PNP-MG and proposed changes from feedback by the users. A soft launch was held at the PNP Regional Maritime Unit 11, on March 15 with USAID Philippines Mission Director Dr. Susan Brems as guest of honor. 700DALOY was also identified as a finalist for the USAID RDMA “Harnessing Data for Resiliency” Award.

The TV White Space Partnership was selected as the winning partnership for the prestigious P3 Impact Award. Hosted by the United States Department of State, Concordia, and the University of Virginia Darden School of Business, the partnership bested over 20 other partnerships and was recognized for its innovation in addressing a systemic problem in fisheries management—fisherfolk registration in remote areas—through the use of technology.

ECOFISH provided the scientific, technical, and governance advise for the establishment of a “seasonal closure” for small pelagics in the Verde Island Passage in year 3. The project continued to provide the same advise in Year 4 and supported the conduct of the fisheries monitoring to determine and measure the effect of the seasonal closure to the abundance of the small pelagics fish stocks. The project likewise held follow up forums and consultations in Batangas in January 2016 to assess the effectiveness of the seasonal closure on small pelagics in Balayan Bay.

Table 3. Performance Indicators, Life of Project Targets, Year 4 Cumulative Targets, Project Accomplishment Total to Date, and Percentage of Accomplishment to Date.

PIRS ¹ No.	Key Result Area	Performance Indicator	LOP Target	Year 4 Target	Project Totals to date	
					Accom- plished	%
1	Result A. An average of 10% increase in fisheries biomass across the eight MKBAs.	Percentage increase in the biomass of selected fisheries in the focal areas across the 8 MKBAs relative to baseline using fisheries dependent method and MPA assessment method	10		NA	NA
2	Result B. A 10% increase in the number of people gaining employment or better employment from sustainable fisheries management from a baseline established at the start of the project	Percentage increase in the number of people gaining employment or better employment in the focal areas across the eight MKBAs relative to baseline using socio-economic methods	10		NA	NA
3	Result C. Establishment of a national capacity development program to enhance the capacities of LGUs and relevant national agencies to apply ecosystem-based approaches to fisheries management.	Number of EAFM training courses conducted (national, regional and local)	120	120	136 ²	113.0%
4		Number of persons trained in EAFM, MPA and CCA (national, regional and local) [FACTS 4.8.1-27: Number of people receiving USG supported training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation]	1,800	1,800	6,475	375.0%
5		Number of person hours of training on EAFM, MPA, and CCA (national, regional and local) [FACTS 4.8.1-29: Number of person hours of training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation supported by USG assistance]	24,000	21,600	129,776	541.0%
6		Number of policy studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA (national) [FACTS 4.8.2.28: Number of laws, policies, strategies, plans, agreements, or regulations addressing climate change and/or biodiversity conservation formally proposed, adopted, or implemented as a result of USG assistance]	8	8	12	150.0%
7	Result D. Eight public-private partnerships supporting the objectives of the ECOFISH project created and operating	Number of strategic partnerships formally established and operating (cumulative)	8	6	6	75.0%
8		Number of community partnerships actively engaged and mobilized (cumulative)	100	40	90	90.0%
9	Result E. One million hectares of municipal marine waters under improved management.	Number of hectares of municipal waters under improved management (cumulative) [FACTS 4.8.1-26: Number of hectares of biological significance and/or natural resources under improved natural resource management as a result of USG assistance]	1,000,000	900,000	1,075,956	108.6%
10		Number of hectares of MPAs and network of MPAs established (cumulative) [FACTS 4.8.1-26: Number of hectares of biological significance and/or natural resources under improved natural resource management]	320	320	300	94.0%

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

² In the conduct of an internal DQA, all trainings were subjected to evaluation using the definition provided in FACTS 4.8.1-29. Some of these trainings which were considered part of the projects' operation or either not training at all such as round table discussions and activity launching are excluded on this reporting period.

PIRS ¹ No.	Key Result Area	Performance Indicator	LOP Target	Year 4 Target	Project Totals to date	
					Accom- plished	%
		as a result of USG assistance]				
11	Result F. A core of 30 LGUs across the eight MKBAs with improved capacity for implementing ecosystem approaches to fisheries management.	Number of inter-LGU/MKBA fisheries management plans developed	8	6	4	50.0%
12		Number of LGUs that have achieved EAFM benchmark level 2 or higher (cumulative)	42	30	28	66.7%

ECOFISH has adapted the Essential EAFM Training Course developed by NOAA, CTI, FAO, BOBLME and SEAFDEC for use in the Philippines. The project worked with NOAA to adapt the training course for use in the Philippines by incorporating Philippine context and examples as well as a more detailed output of the EAFM plan for use by local government units. The revised materials will be further developed after the trainings and launched in tandem with the LGU Start-up Guide.

The project, through MERF, finalized the draft of the State of the Marine Resources Report and is planned to be presented for review, final approval, and adoption by partners and stakeholders.

Recognizing the need for BFAR to establish a comprehensive national system for organizing several databases for fisheries related information, the BFAR-Fisheries Information Management Center (FIMC) teamed up with ECOFISH for a tie-up and collaboration. In the 3rd quarter of 2015, BFAR-FIMC and ECOFISH co-designed a data management capacity package, complete with technical specifications on hardware, software, and basic data management protocols towards consolidating FishR, BoatR, FLEMIS and PhilCatch databases under an EAFM database.

7. Initial Project Impacts

At this stage of implementation, the full impact of the project could not still be fully realized. However, recent project activities with partners at the national and MKBA levels have already shown some initial impacts. These are the visible impacts the Project has seen during this reporting period:

- The enhanced version of the 700DALOY platform was prototyped by SMART according to the specifications requested by the PNP-MG and proposed changes from feedback by the users. The importance of this SMS facility is increasingly recognized, not only by the PNP MG, but also by stakeholders. 700DALOY was also identified as a finalist for the USAID RDMA “Harnessing Data for Resiliency” Award.
- BFAR recognized the role of ECOFISH and USAID in the drafting the Comprehensive National Fisheries Industry Development Plan (CNFIDP). At the launching event, BFAR gave USAID a plaque of appreciation for its continuing support to BFAR. The award was received by Mr. Michael Klecheski, Deputy Chief of Mission of the US Embassy

- The project has provided an added dimension to the training of the BFAR-QRT by focusing on the important elements of fishery law enforcement. The trainings courses are primarily focused on improving individual skills in the various aspects of enforcement, namely, in chart reading, boarding procedures, vessel search, shipboard arrest techniques, and custody of evidence.
- The selection of TV White Space as the winning partnership for the prestigious P3 Impact Award gave the project a well-deserved recognition from partners, institutions, and other development workers. Hosted by the United States Department of State, Concordia, and the University of Virginia Darden School of Business, the partnership was recognized for its innovation in addressing a systemic problem in fisheries management—fisherfolk registration in remote areas—through the use of technology.
- The ECOFISH provided scientific advice to NSAP Region 4-B in the conduct studies and development of plans for the management of roundscad fisheries in Palawan. This also included providing guidance to the technical working group in coming up with the various options for the management of roundscad fisheries in Palawan including the possible seasonal closure option. The closed season was implemented from November 15, 2015 to January 30, 2016 in northern Palawan.
- ECOFISH continued support to existing MPAs and MPA Network through technical coaching, trainings and meetings resulted to replication of best practices to other sites within Calamianes Island Group. Four new MPAs in Coron and 1 in Linapacan were established and approved through municipal ordinances. A significant increase in the number of tourist arrivals in Siete Pecados Marine Park which translate to increase in income generated from user's fee.
- In the 2015 round of the seasonal closure implementation in Balayan Bay, cash for work incentive by the DSWD for affected fishers was no longer provided. This cast doubts on the success of the intervention. To maintain the gains of the previous years seasonal closure, ECOFISH and PGENRO lobbied for its implementation. Local executives decided to proceed with the initiative and enforced the provisions in the Fisheries Code (R.A. 8550 as amended by R.A. 10654) of the country. In addition, the Provincial Government's Sangguniang Panlalawigan passed a resolution supporting the six (6) years implementation of the seasonal closure.