

The National Advisory Group (NAG) Meeting	 <p style="text-align: center;">(GCP/RAS/269/GFF)</p>	New Maqueda Bay Hotel, Catbalogan City, Samar, Philippines  14 October 2016
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**“Strategies for trawl fisheries bycatch management”**  
(REBYC-II CTI Project)

**REPORT OF THE NATIONAL ADVISORY GROUP (NAG) MEETING**

New Maqueda Bay Hotel, Catbalogan City, Samar; October 14, 2016

**Summary**

A concluding National Advisory Group Meeting was held to review the accomplishments/achievements of the “Strategies for trawl fisheries bycatch management” (REBYC-II CTI) Project, including the draft Samar Sea Fisheries Management Plan (SSFMP), its implementation, monitoring and evaluation plan and consider advice on the way forward to sustain the project achievements and possible next phase of the project. The SSFMP is to be implemented by the Samar Sea Alliance of Local Government Units for Fisheries Management and Development, with support from Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Local government Units and other stakeholders. The Plan had been developed using the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management and on the basis of results of surveys conducted by the REBYC-II CTI Project, in collaboration with BFAR and the Samar State University. The meeting discussed also relevant sections of Philippine fisheries legislation and participants expressed their support on future Plan implementation, in particular with regard to law enforcement, management measures such as closed season.

**INTRODUCTION**

- 1) REBYC-II CTI Project “Strategies for trawl fisheries bycatch management” aims to contribute to the more sustainable use of fisheries resources and healthier marine ecosystems in the Coral Triangle and Southeast Asia waters by reducing bycatch, discards and fishing impact by trawl fisheries. The project is implemented by five (5) participating countries Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam.
- 2) In the Philippines, the project is implemented in Samar Sea as the pilot project site. The National Working/Advisory Group (NWG/NAG) provides advice and guidance on the overall project implementation and work plans.
- 3) As one of the culminating activities of the project, the NAG meeting aims to review the accomplishments/achievements of the project including the draft Samar Sea Fisheries Management Plan (SSFMP), its implementation, monitoring and evaluation plan and consider advice on the way forward to sustain the project achievements and possible next phase of the project. The Provisional Prospectus is attached as Annex 1.
- 4) The meeting was attended by 26 participants from FAO-Philippines, Samar Sea Alliance of Local Government Units for Fisheries Management and Development (SASAFMD), Local

Government Units (LGUs), Project Technical Working Group (TWG), and other stakeholders. The list of participants is attached as Annex 2.

## **PROGRAMME**

- 5) The meeting started with a prayer led by Brother Father Cecilio Talagon (TWG Member representing the NGO Social Action Center), followed by singing the National Anthem and BFAR Hymn.
- 6) The Project TWG Chair, Mr. Norberto T. Berida, Training Chief of BFAR Regional Field Office 8, acknowledged and thanked the participants. He emphasized the significance of this concluding meeting of the NAG, considering the necessity to sustain the initiatives of the project in the management of fisheries in Samar Sea.
- 7) Ms. Rosario Gutierrez, Calbayog City Administrator, delivered the message of Mayor Ronaldo P. Aquino being the Chairman of SASAFMD. The Mayor expressed his gratitude for implementing the REBYC II CTI Project in Samar Sea, particularly in initiating implementation of the Samar Sea Fisheries Management Plan (SSFMP). He acknowledged the handing over of the Plan to the Alliance and gave the assurance of rehabilitating Samar Sea, mentioning that restoring and sustaining the commercially important fish species and shellfish resources is a challenge in Samar Sea.
- 8) He further disclosed that the Alliance was organized in response to sustain the gains from the scientific studies of the project and in order to effectively sustain protection and manage the fishery concerns in Samar Sea.
- 9) The Mayor thanked the members of the National Advisory Group, BFAR Regional and Provincial Offices, the Alliance, and the fisherfolk for their committed and passionate commitment to the cause of Samar Sea. He also acknowledged with grateful appreciation to the counterparts from the Province of Biliran, in particular to the municipalities of Maripipi and Tagkawayan. He challenged everyone to resolve and work together for the benefit of Samar Sea constituents.
- 10) BFAR 8 Regional Director Dr. Juan D. Albaladejo highlighted that the Samar Sea Alliance (or SASAFMD) is now recognized in the Southeast Asian Region and other countries. They are looking at the SSFMP as an example of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM). He acknowledged and recognized the effort and participation of the TWG Members of the different stakeholders in the implementation of the REBYC-II CTI project. He encouraged everyone to strengthen cooperation and partnership in the industry. He underlined the study under National Stock Assessment Program indicating prevalent degradation of resources and the need to manage and protect the resources. He also encouraged the meeting to support the banning of the operation of Modified Danish Seine "Hulbot-hulbot" in Samar Sea.
- 11) RD Albaladejo also recognized the importance of the Philippine Coast Guard for their participation in law enforcement of Samar Sea and emphasized the need to strengthen partnership in enforcing the fishery law in Samar and adjacent local and national waters. He informed the coastal municipalities that BFAR will be providing floating assets and other communication equipment, with an additional Php700M fund next year to support the fishery management and development of Samar Sea. The development potentials of

Samar Sea on shellfish will be pursued in cooperation with the Japanese Government especially in value-adding.

- 12) He also highlighted the important role of the Alliance and the SSFMP on BFAR Program on Mainstreaming Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (M-EAFM). One particular example was the management measure “closed season”, and he encouraged the stakeholders to participate in the strict implementation of fishery laws for the sustainability of resources in Samar Sea. He mentioned that the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture (DA) and the Regional Director envision reaching the goal of 5 tons per km<sup>2</sup> in a 5 year period. He was counting on every stakeholder for their support and help in attaining the vision and goals for the Samar Sea.
- 13) He also highlighted the livelihood program for the fisherfolk by President Rodrigo Duterte, supported by DA Secretary Manuel Piñol, called “Bangka sa Pagbabago” which envisions to provide fiberglass fishing banca/boats to fishermen.
- 14) He requested the Alliance and stakeholders to take forward the initiative of the REBYC II CTI Project and assured BFAR support to achieve sustainable fisheries of Samar Sea.

### **REBYC-II CTI Project Achievements**

- 15) The National Technical Officer, Dr. Jonathan O. Dickson, presented the Project accomplishments and achievements for the period of 5 years implementation. He acknowledged that the project accomplishments were realized through the full support and cooperation of the project TWG, LGUs and other project partners since REBYC Phase 1.
- 16) Dr. Dickson explained that the process and activities associated with the development and implementation of Samar Sea Fisheries Management Plan (SSFMP) are the main achievements of the project. He explained that the SSFMP is in line with the existing national policy frameworks such as Republic Act (RA) 8550 or “The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998” and amended by RA 10654, RA 7160 “Local Government Code”, and RA 8435 “Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act of 1997”; and addresses the main issues facing trawl fisheries: problems on bycatch and discards such as conflicts with other resource users, demand from aquaculture for trashfish, role of trashfish / low value fish in food fish consumption, and lack of socio economic data to support fisheries management.
- 17) He mentioned that the SSFMP was developed through the EAFM process and that the SSFMP was useful in mainstreaming EAFM in BFAR national programs. The socioeconomic data from the project are used in the implementation of the SSFMP. The SSFMP process followed strengthened working relationship with BFAR, law enforcement agencies and other key stakeholders, and EAFM sensitized the stakeholders on fishery issues.
- 18) He presented the summary accomplishments of the project according to the objectives and outputs by project component - Component 1: Policy, Legal and Institutional Frameworks; Component 2: Resource Management and Fishing Operations; Component 3: Information and Management Communication; Component 4: Awareness and Knowledge. The summary is attached as Annex 3.

## **The Samar Sea Fisheries Management Plan (SSFMP) and its Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation Plan:**

- 19) The Project TWG-Chair presented the final copy of the SSFMP. He highlighted on the process in its preparation, particularly on the participatory and consultative seminars, trainings, workshop and consultation that had been conducted under the project.
- 20) He also stressed on the studies conducted by the Samar State University and BFAR on the Gonado-Somatic Index (GSI) and distribution of fish eggs and larvae as basis for the adoption of a closed season to protect spawners and juveniles at early stage. He also mentioned the critical habitat surveys and stock assessment cruises by MV DA-BFAR and BFAR – National Stock Assessment and SSU landing surveys that provided important benchmarks and indicators in the SSFMP.
- 21) The presentation is attached as Annex 4.

### **Action Plan/ Way Forward:**

- 22) Mr. Napoleon Salvador J. Lamarca, BFAR-Capture Fisheries Division and Project Technical Staff, had earlier facilitated the discussion on Action Plan/Way Forward during the public consultation and NSAP Review. He explained that henceforth the Alliance will move forward and operationalize the provisions of the SSFMP and that BFAR activities and projects in Samar Sea should now be aligned with the action plan of the Alliance. He further explained that the collaboration/cooperation of the Alliance and BFAR Region 8 is key in achieving the goals of the SSFMP.
- 23) He also informed the meeting of the additional operations to test the accordion trap and other studies conducted by the project, including the periodic survey cruise of MV DA-BFAR in Samar Sea and proposals by the partner University (SSU) on the conduct of survey to conclude its Letter of Agreement (LOA) under the project. He also mentioned the important inclusion of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in terms of mangrove reforestation and Mariculture Park Area) as concerns in the implementation of the SSFMP.
- 24) The action plan/way forward is attached as Annex 5.

### **OPEN FORUM/ DISCUSSIONS**

- 25) Mr. Virgilio Tomnob recognized the process of the preparation and implementation of the SSFMP and appreciated the activities that had been so far conducted. He further cited the meeting requesting the Alliance to prepare a Resolution designating him as executive officer. He recognized the need for the Alliance to designate a full time Executive Director with the main responsibility to administer the SSFMP and coordinate its implementation and activities. This would also necessitate the relief of some official functions of Ms. Angelica Realino and Mr. Mark Sabido from their official assignment at the Calbayog City Agriculture Office to provide focus on the work and activities of the Alliance.
- 26) He also clarified the issue on the Alliance Fishery Law Enforcement Team (AFLET) participation on the requirements and qualification on educational attainment to be part or member of the AFLET, and the total number needed to be equally divided by the eleven

(11) municipalities, including the Island Municipality of Maripipi, Biliran. He commended the municipality of Kawayan, Biliran of expressing interest to join the Samar Sea Alliance.

- 27) On the query on the qualification of the proposed 4 enforcers per member-LGU for the “Bantay Laot” or the AFLET, Regional Director Albaladejo stated that requirements and qualification should be at least having elementary education, can read and write, and physically able to attend trainings. Mr. Tomnob suggested that the number of enforcers from the LGUs should be rated according to the distance of coastline and the number of fisherfolk and coastal population.
- 28) Mr. Tomnob requested that the Alliance should make a resolution and designate a focal person at the province and municipal level. RD Albaladejo announced that Fisheries Livelihood and Development Technicians (FLDTs) assigned by BFAR in every municipality can assist in the operation of the Alliance.
- 29) The representative from the Commercial Fishing Sector is looking forward on the way the Alliance will continue with the management of Samar Sea. Mr. Tomnob explained the continuity of the Alliance will rest on perseverance of local leadership, including pushing and improving the inclusion of fisherfolk leaders in the implementation. He also suggested that elected mayors designate their Municipal/City Agriculture Officers as their official alternate representative to the Alliance, so that this program can continue even when their term of office is ended, for the sustainability of the Alliance. He informed the meeting that the Alliance of LCEs is already registered with the Security and Exchange Commission.
- 30) RD Albaladejo suggested the affected fishermen to shift from active fishing method to passive fishing method and/or from capture to aquaculture and for the affected fishermen in the commercial fishing sector, these will be given priority for training and livelihood programs of BFAR, value adding projects, possible links to Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) Programs, and credit facilities of the government.
- 31) On the Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) issue as required under the Amended Fisheries Code (Republic Act 8550 as amended by RA 10654), he explained that BFAR will provide support to commercial fishers, as local and less costly monitoring measures are being looked into.
- 32) Mr. Balili, the local Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council (FARMC) representative made his observation on the fishing highway as win-win solution for the operation of commercial fishing boat. However they are still encroaching in municipal waters, thus he suggested that the fishing highway should be reviewed by the Alliance.
- 33) The participants requested the Samar State University (SSU) to continue and conduct further studies on marine habitats (mangrove, corals and sea grass), shellfish (e.g. clams) products, effort or capacity assessment, marine capture production and biological aspects as basis for evaluation of the closed season and other interventions in the future.
- 34) Prof. Renato Diocton of SSU raised the issue of shifting from active to passive fishing gear, suggesting the introduction of “*Otoshi Ami*” or set net “*Lambaklad*” in Samar Sea.
- 35) On the inquiry on the possibility of a Project Phase III, Dr. Dickson responded and informed the meeting that during the last meeting with Regional Field Unit in Bangkok, there was an initiative for a new project to be developed by SEAFDEC Training

Department but likely it will be with a different project focus and title, and not a project that specifically addresses bycatch. He mentioned the possible area for the project of addressing sustainability of trawl fisheries and developing Fisheries Improvement Projects as a way forward to address sustainability of resources.

## **Closing**

36) In closing the meeting, Mr. Virgilio Tomnob thanked participants for their attendance and active participation and the success of the final meeting of the NAG. He reiterated the importance for BFAR to continue its support in order to achieve the objectives and goal of the Samar Sea Fisheries Management Plan in sustaining the fisheries resources of Samar Sea thereby providing food and livelihood to fisherfolk and communities in the area.

## **Annex 1. Provisional Prospectus and Program**

### **NATIONAL ADVISORY GROUP (NAG) MEETING OF THE REBYC II CTI PROJECT**

Maqueda Bay Hotel Conference Hall, Catbalogan City, Samar  
October 14, 2016

#### **PROVISIONAL PROSPECTUS**

##### **1) BACKGROUND/RATIONALE**

REBYC-II CTI Project “Strategies for trawl fisheries bycatch management” aims to contribute to the more sustainable use of fisheries resources and healthier marine ecosystems in the Coral Triangle and Southeast Asia waters by reducing bycatch, discards and fishing impact by trawl fisheries. The project is implemented by the five (5) participating countries Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam.

In the Philippines, the project is implemented in Samar Sea as the pilot project site. The National Working/Advisory Group (NWG/NAG) provides advice and guidance on the overall project implementation and work plans. The NAG members include representatives of national project partners and the local Consultative Groups from BFAR, DA-Special Projects Coordination and Management Assistance Division (SPCMAD), DENR, FAO-Philippines, Samar Sea Alliance of LGUs for Fisheries Management and Development, Academe and other Stakeholders.

As one of the culminating activities of the project, the NAG meeting aims to review the accomplishments/achievements of the project including the draft Samar Sea Fisheries Management Plan (SSFMP), its implementation, monitoring and evaluation plan and to advise on the way forward to sustain the project achievements and possible next phase of the project.

##### **2) OBJECTIVES**

- a) To present and review project accomplishments/outputs/achievements
- b) To solicit advice/guidance on the way forward to sustain project achievements in Samar Sea and at national level
- c) Seek guidance on possible next phase of the project

##### **3) EXPECTED OUTPUTS**

- a) The project accomplishments/outputs/achievements are reviewed and recognized
- b) Advise/guidance and recommendation on way forward to sustain achievements at local (Samar Sea) and national level
- c) Recommendations for possible next phase of the project and submission to the RFU

#### 4) PROCESS

- a) The NAG is briefed with the project accomplishments/achievements at project (5 countries + SEAFDEC) and at pilot site (Samar Sea);
- b) The NAG provides their suggestions, may raise questions, comments and recommendations during the Open Forum
- c) The NAG discuss and provides advice/guidance on way forward to sustain project achievements and on possible next phase of project implementation

#### 5) DATE AND VENUE

Inclusive dates: October 14, 2016

Venue: Maqueda Bay Hotel and Restaurant/Conference Hall, Catbalogan City, Samar

#### 6) PARTICIPANTS : 30 participants

##### Agency/Group

BFAR 8	3
FAO Philippines	1
Department of Environment and Natural Resources	1
Department of Agriculture	1
LGU Catbalogan City	2
Academe	2
Alliance	3
Project Technical Working Group	12
REBYC Project staff	5

#### 7) CONTACT PERSONS

<b>Dr. Jonathan O. Dickson ,DFT</b> National Technical Officer, REBYC II-CTI Project Tel: 09178588404 / 09998847635 Email: <a href="mailto:jod_bfar@yahoo.com">jod_bfar@yahoo.com</a>	<b>Mr. Norberto T. Berida</b> Training Chief, BFAR 8 Co-Chair TWG Tel: 09062438283 Email: <a href="mailto:bfar_rftc8@yahoo.com.ph">bfar_rftc8@yahoo.com.ph</a>
<b>Ms. Angelica T. Realino</b> Executive Director, SASAFMD LGU Calbayog City Tel: 0915615594 Email: <a href="mailto:angelicarealino@yahoo.com">angelicarealino@yahoo.com</a>	<b>Mr. Rafael V. Ramiscal</b> National Project Coordinator REBYC II-CTI Project Tel : 09998847635 Email: <a href="mailto:rv_ram55@yahoo.com">rv_ram55@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Mr. Juan Meniano</b> PCAF/PAFC Provincial Coordinator OPA Samar Tel: 09209682241 Email: <a href="mailto:juan_meniano@yahoo.com">juan_meniano@yahoo.com</a>	



## NATIONAL ADVISORY GROUP (NAG) MEETING FOR THE REBYC II CTI PROJECT



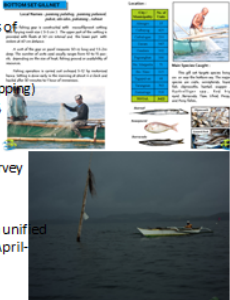

Maqueda Bay Hotel Conference Hall, Catbalogan City, Samar  
October 14, 2016

<b>TENTATIVE PROGRAM/AGENDA</b>		
08:30 am	Registration	Secretariat
<b>Opening program</b>		
09:30 am – 3:00 pm	Preliminaries	
	Introduction/Recognition of Participants	<b>Mr. Norberto T. Berida</b> Project TWG Chair and BFAR 8 Training Chief
	Welcome/Message	<b>Hon. Stephanie Uy-Tan</b> City Mayor, Catbalogan City
	Messages	<b>Hon. Ronaldo P. Aquino</b> City Mayor, Calbayor City  <b>Dr. Juan D. Albaladejo</b> Regional Director, BFAR8
	Photo ops	
	REBYC II-CTI Project Overview & Project accomplishments and achievements	<b>Dr. Jonathan O. Dickson</b> National Technical Officer
	The Draft Samar Samar Sea Fisheries Management Plan (SSFMP) and its Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation Plan	<b>Norberto T. Berida</b> , Exec. Dir. SSAFMD/TWG Member, and/or <b>Rafael V. Ramiscal</b> , National Project Coordinator
	Action Plan/Way Forward	<b>Mr. Napoleon Salvador J. Lamarca</b> , Project Technical Staff
	Discussion / Recapitulation	<b>Juan Meniano/Cecil Talagon</b> Facilitators
Closing		
<b>MC/Rapporteurs/Documentors: Juan Meniaro /Efren V. Hilario / Ronnie O. Romero</b>		

**Annex 2.** List of Participants during the National Advisory Group (NAG) Meeting

<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Destination</b>
Marcos Sabido	Calbayog	Aqua II
Cecilio N. Talagon	Catbalogan	FLDT Supervisor
Vilma Alaga	Tacloban	TS II
Juan Meniano	Catbalogan	PAFC Coord/TWG
Renato Diocton	Catbalogan	Professor
VirgilioTomnob	Calbayog	Executive Asst.
Rosario Gutierrez	Calbayog	City Administrator
Marcelo Camarines	Sta. Margarita	TWG
Apolinario Cataros	Calbayog	TWG
Cris Balan	Catbalogan	Technical Staff
Rolando Ay-Ay	Catbalogan	PFO
Gerry Mondido	Tacloban	Mech.
Dionisio Balili	Calbayog	TWG
Katherine Pacampara	Catbalogan	Research Assistance
Simon Conejos	Catbalogan	Aqua II
Myrna Ramos	BFAR Q.C	Technical Staff
Shinette A. Tabien	BFAR Q. C	Admin Aide V
Mark Louie Benavidez	BFAR Q.C	Admin Aide V
Joeren Yleana	BFAR Q.C	Aqua I
Leodelyn A. Conejos	Tacloban	Aqua II
Dr. Juan Albaladejo	Tacloban	Regional Director
Maridel Bulawit	Sta. Margarita	TWG
Norberto Berida	Tacloban	Chief-RTD
Napoleon Salvador J. Lamarca	BFAR Q.C	Aqua II
Efren V. Hilario	BFAR Q.C	Aqua II
Ronnie O. Romero	BFAR Q.C	MES
Jonathan Dickson	Q.C/Makati	NTO
Alfredo Acerdin	Tacloban	Admin Staff
Arnold Abrera	BFAR Q.C	Driver
Cyrill Gaylon	BFAR Q.C	Driver

### Annex 3. Summary of accomplishments of the project according to the objectives and outputs by project component

<p>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE BUREAU OF FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES Strategies for trawl fisheries bycatch management (REBYC-II CTI) SEAFDEC gef</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Overall Summary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Successful implementation of the Project Components</li> <li>Co- management of Samar Sea</li> <li>Mainstreaming of SSFMP to the BFAR National Program</li> <li>EAFM was useful in the development of SSFMP</li> <li>Socioeconomic data from the project was used in the implementation of SSFMP</li> <li>Strengthened working relationship with BFAR, Law Enforcement Agencies and Other Key Stakeholders</li> <li>EAFM sensitized the stakeholders on fishery issues</li> </ul>	<p>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE BUREAU OF FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES Strategies for trawl fisheries bycatch management (REBYC-II CTI) SEAFDEC gef</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Component 1: Policy, Legal and Institutional Frameworks</b> What were achieved..</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>REBYC Phils. representatives participated in the APFIC regional workshop to develop a regional guidelines on bycatch management and reduction of discards</li> <li>The Samar Sea Fisheries Management Plan adheres to international guidelines on bycatch management and the reduction of discards.</li> <li>The Samar Sea Fisheries Management Plan (SSFMP) finalized after its presentation to stakeholders/TWG, BFAR Regional Fisheries Office Staff, Public (General), the Members of the Samar Sea Alliance of Local Government Units (LGUs) and the National Advisory Group.</li> </ul>
<p>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE BUREAU OF FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES Strategies for trawl fisheries bycatch management (REBYC-II CTI) SEAFDEC gef</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Component 1: Policy, Legal and Institutional Frameworks</b> What were achieved..</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Socio economic studies carried out under project, used in determining local level management measures and feature as a chapter in the SSFMP.</li> <li>Implementation Guidelines of the SSFMP completed</li> <li>Philippines study of policies and legal framework for trawl fisheries in progress.</li> <li>Fisheries Administrative Order 237, (regulation on use of JTED), is in place and complied by commercial trawler operators in the Samar Sea pilot area.</li> </ul>  <p style="font-size: small;">REBYC-II CTI Lessons Learned Workshop, 2013 Centre point Hotel, Silom, Bangkok, Thailand</p>	<p>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE BUREAU OF FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES Strategies for trawl fisheries bycatch management (REBYC-II CTI) SEAFDEC gef</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Component 1: Policy, Legal and Institutional Frameworks</b> What were achieved..</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unified ordinance for the 4 month closed season approved by 11 coastal municipalities</li> <li>Establishment of the project National Advisory Group (NAG). April 29, 2013 (BFAR), Quezon City. Two meetings conducted.</li> <li>REBYC CTI TWG pilot site established</li> <li>Consultative group and stakeholder participation to plan, coordinate and monitor project activities</li> <li>Establishment/Integration of local management council (Alliance of Samar Sea Local Government Units / LGUs) for Samar Sea management.</li> </ul> 
<p>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE BUREAU OF FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES Strategies for trawl fisheries bycatch management (REBYC-II CTI) SEAFDEC gef</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Component 2: Resource Management and Fishing Operations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What was achieved?             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completion of Catalogue of Fishing Gears of Samar Sea</li> <li>Coral reefs surveys (for critical habitat mapping) covered 19 sites in 6 municipalities/cities completed.</li> <li>The SSU ichthyo-plankton and by-catch survey completed.</li> <li>The SSFMP supports the formulation of a unified ordinance for a 4-month closed season (April-July) in Samar Sea.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> 	<p>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE BUREAU OF FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES Strategies for trawl fisheries bycatch management (REBYC-II CTI) SEAFDEC gef</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Component 2: Resource Management and Fishing Operations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What was achieved?             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fishing grounds and critical habitats in Samar Sea mapped.</li> <li>Training/workshop on the inventory of fishing gears and boats</li> <li>Inventory of trawl and other fishing gears in 11 municipalities, Samar Sea, followed by a workshop to review and consolidate data.</li> <li>Establishment of monitoring scheme incorporated in the SSFMP</li> <li>Provision of alternative livelihood</li> </ul> </li> </ul> 





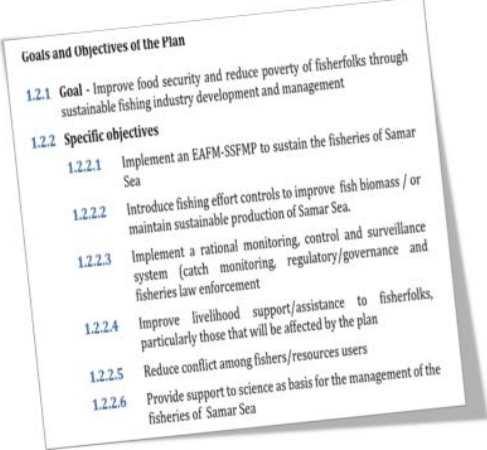


**Component 3: Information and Management Communications**

- Established a website for the project
- Baseline data on socioeconomics of trawl fisheries in the pilot site
- Technical paper on the socioeconomic survey

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- Established a website for the project
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- Technical paper on the socioeconomic survey

# Annex 4: Samar Sea Fisheries Management Plan (SSFMP) and its Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation Plan

 <p><b>THE SAMAR SEA FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PLAN</b> Prepared by the Fisheries Working Group (FWG) REBYC II-CTI Project Plan for Samar Sea</p>	 <table border="1"> <tr><td>1. Introduction</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>2. Vision</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>3. Scope of the Plan</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>4. Objectives of the Management Plan</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5. Rational basis of the plan with Fisheries</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>6. Rational basis of the plan with Other</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>7. Basis of the Plan</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>8. Role of the Plan</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>9. Role of the Plan</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>10. Role of the Plan</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>11. Role of the Plan</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>12. Role of the Plan</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>13. Role of the Plan</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>14. Role of the Plan</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>15. Role of the Plan</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>16. Role of the Plan</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>17. Role of the Plan</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>18. Role of the Plan</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>19. Role of the Plan</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>20. Role of the Plan</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>21. Role of the Plan</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>22. Role of the Plan</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>23. Role of the Plan</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>24. Role of the Plan</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>25. Role of the Plan</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>26. Role of the Plan</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>27. Role of the Plan</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>28. Role of the Plan</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>29. Role of the Plan</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>30. Role of the Plan</td><td>4</td></tr> </table>	1. Introduction	4	2. Vision	4	3. Scope of the Plan	4	4. Objectives of the Management Plan	4	5. Rational basis of the plan with Fisheries	4	6. Rational basis of the plan with Other	4	7. Basis of the Plan	4	8. Role of the Plan	4	9. Role of the Plan	4	10. Role of the Plan	4	11. Role of the Plan	4	12. Role of the Plan	4	13. Role of the Plan	4	14. Role of the Plan	4	15. Role of the Plan	4	16. Role of the Plan	4	17. Role of the Plan	4	18. Role of the Plan	4	19. Role of the Plan	4	20. Role of the Plan	4	21. Role of the Plan	4	22. Role of the Plan	4	23. Role of the Plan	4	24. Role of the Plan	4	25. Role of the Plan	4	26. Role of the Plan	4	27. Role of the Plan	4	28. Role of the Plan	4	29. Role of the Plan	4	30. Role of the Plan	4
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 <p><b>SAMAR SEA IMPORTANT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 35,000-40,000 mt of fish annually</li> <li>• 35,141 direct employment (Source: REBYC II-CTI Socio-econ estimate) = 4.8% of Samar population</li> <li>• 23,293 registered fisher folk (Source: Fisher - 3.3 % of Samar population (733,377 as of 2010, Source: <a href="http://www.wfp.org/publications/2012/06/01/2010-population-estimates-for-the-philippines">http://www.wfp.org/publications/2012/06/01/2010-population-estimates-for-the-philippines</a>))</li> <li>• 175,705 direct dependents (Source: REBYC II-CTI Socio-econ estimate) = 24% of Samar population</li> <li>• 23,293 registered fisher folk (Source: FishR)</li> <li>• Fisher - 3.3 % of Samar population (733,377 as of 2010, Source: <a href="http://www.wfp.org/publications/2012/06/01/2010-population-estimates-for-the-philippines">http://www.wfp.org/publications/2012/06/01/2010-population-estimates-for-the-philippines</a>)</li> </ul>	 <p><b>ISSUES / PROBLEMS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overfishing &amp; reduced catch</li> <li>• Illegal fishing</li> <li>• Conflicting interests &amp; other resource users</li> <li>• Ineffective management / No management plan</li> </ul> <p>Samar Sea is acknowledged to have experienced overfishing and significant degradation of marine resources. In 1981, there were 50 commercial fish species with a total catch of 10,000 metric tons. By 2000, the catch was reduced to only 10,000 metric tons. The first red tide in the Philippines occurred in the Samar Sea in 1983 and thereafter continued to occur at irregular intervals.</p>																																																												
 <p><b>Goals and Objectives of the Plan</b></p> <p><b>1.2.1 Goal -</b> Improve food security and reduce poverty of fisherfolks through sustainable fishing industry development and management</p> <p><b>1.2.2 Specific objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.2.2.1 Implement an EAFM-SSFMP to sustain the fisheries of Samar Sea</li> <li>1.2.2.2 Introduce fishing effort controls to improve fish biomass / or maintain sustainable production of Samar Sea.</li> <li>1.2.2.3 Implement a rational monitoring, control and surveillance system (catch monitoring, regulatory/governance and fisheries law enforcement)</li> <li>1.2.2.4 Improve livelihood support/assistance to fisherfolks, particularly those that will be affected by the plan</li> <li>1.2.2.5 Reduce conflict among fishers/resources users</li> <li>1.2.2.6 Provide support to science as basis for the management of the fisheries of Samar Sea</li> </ul>	 <p><b>1.3. Scope of the Plan</b></p> <p>This Plan shall cover all marine capture based fisheries in eleven (11) coastal municipalities and cities of the province of Samar. The spatial scope is about 168.9 km<sup>2</sup> is about 85.3% of the total area of Samar Sea (Fig. 2)</p>  <p>Figure 2. Map of Samar Sea and scope of the SSFMP</p>																																																												



The more recent survey conducted by MV DA-BFAR using a high opening trawl in Samar Sea indicated a biomass of about 2.88 t/km<sup>2</sup> and the catch belonging to 107 genera. While the biomass of Samar Sea was observed to be somewhat higher than that of Visayan Sea (2.4 t/km), it is however noticeable that the number of genera has declined in Samar Sea and diversity is comparatively inferior in contrast to the high diversity observed in Visayan Sea (MV DA-BFAR, 2013).

Table 1. Spawning months of selected commercial species

Species	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Bonga (Demersal spp.)												
Kalua (Demersal spp.)												
Tambog (Demersal spp.)												
Bayu (Demersal spp.)												
Lawayan (Demersal spp.)												
Agapan (Demersal spp.)												
Calang (Demersal spp.)												
Haritai (Demersal spp.)												
Bata-bata (Demersal spp.)												
Alamban (Demersal spp.)												
Manabaka (Polar)												

Source: Results of study during REBYC I, 2005-2006; Results of assessment conducted by SIO, 2013-2014. Legend: 1: Month of high proportion of captured (page IV-V); 2: Anticipated high occurrence of juvenile.

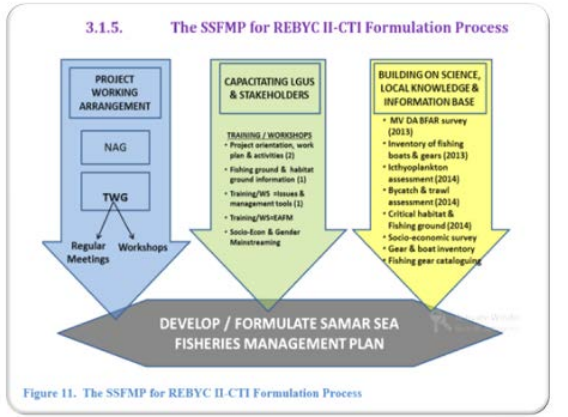


Figure 11. The SSFMP for REBYC II-CTI Formulation Process

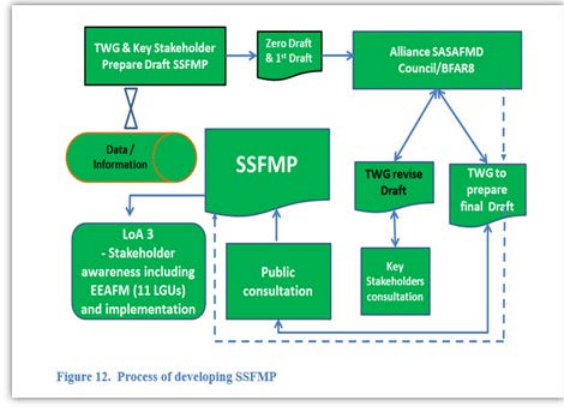


Figure 12. Process of developing SSFMP

ISSUES	OBJECTIVES	MANAGEMENT OPTIONS	IMPLEMENTING STRATEGY: GUIDELINE
Ineffective fisheries management	Implement a Samar Sea-wide EAFM based-SSFMP to sustain the fisheries.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Formulate &amp; adopt the Samar Sea Fisheries Management Plan through EAFM process</li> <li>Seek out external support on the implementation of SSFMP and EAFM Process</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Operationalize the Samar Sea Alliance of Local Government Units for Fisheries Management and Development (SASAFMD-Alliance)</li> <li>TWG to endorse SSFMP to the Alliance</li> <li>Alliance to prepare a Resolution adopting the Management Plan</li> <li>Rules and Regulations for specific management options identified through SSFMP and implemented through Alliance Resolutions/Ordinance including but not limited to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between Alliance and BFAR</li> <li>Close Season</li> <li>Establishment of Alliance Fishery Law Enforcement Team (AFLET)</li> <li>Establishment of fishing zone and rules and regulation for the operations of active fishing gears (including catch/vessel documentation/monitoring)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Alliance to harmonize local fishery ordinances of LGUs (2 Cities and 9 Municipalities)</li> </ul>

Illegal fishing	Implement a rational monitoring, control and surveillance system (catch monitoring, regulatory governance and fisheries law enforcement)	Establishment of Alliance Fisheries Law Enforcement Team (ANFLET)	Adopt a Joint Resolution for the Establishment of the Alliance Fishery Law Enforcement Team (AFLET)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce incidence of cyanide and</li> <li>Reduce incidence of 100 commercial fishing boats</li> <li>Maintain a regular patrol/ law enforcement activities</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishment of patrol boats &amp; sustained logistic</li> <li>Institutionalize incentives &amp; protection to fishery law enforcers</li> <li>Regular dialogue/awareness building between fisheries, law enforcers &amp; LGUs</li> <li>Establish cyanide detection laboratory in Samar</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arrangements among law enforcement agencies / groups</li> <li>Composition</li> <li>Capacity building</li> <li>Operations protocol</li> <li>Others</li> <li>Support from BFAR and International/National organization</li> <li>Logistics support to be provided by the Alliance</li> <li>Request LGUs to standardize and sustain incentives and protection to support the fishery law enforcers</li> <li>Request Alliance to provide legal support to law enforcement teams on the filing of cases, attending court hearing, preparation of evidences and affidavits</li> <li>Request Alliance and BFAR to conduct regular dialogue/awareness building between fisheries, law enforcers &amp; LGUs</li> <li>Request BFAR to provide facility for establishment of cyanide detection</li> </ul>

Overfishing / Overcapacity	Introduce fishing effort controls to improve fish biomass / or maintain sustainable production of Samar Sea	Establish seasonal closure during spawning months	Adopt Joint Resolution for the Declaration of a Closed Season for the Conservation and Management of Demersal and Pelagic Fishes in Samar Sea
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase biomass (production or t/km<sup>2</sup>)</li> <li>Improve catch rate</li> <li>Improve coral cover</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maratorium on number of boats</li> <li>Establish control/inspection mechanism at LGU level for active gears (limit fishing days &amp; trips)</li> <li>Establish fishing color coding scheme</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adopt Alliance Resolution on the designation of fishing zone and rules and regulation for active fishing gears to include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>control/inspection mechanism (log-in, log-out)</li> <li>catch documentation/monitoring</li> <li>vessel monitoring measure/s</li> <li>color coding</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Science/knowledge gap and monitoring need / (information gaps)	Provide sustainable science base for fisheries management	Immediate coverage of NSAP in Samar Sea	BFAR to assign additional DRRP enumerators for deployment in Taranagan, Sta. Margarita and Pagsanjan.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase awareness of stakeholders on the importance of EAFM</li> <li>Improve livelihood support/assistance to fisherfolk, particularly those that will be affected by the plan</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct stakeholder orientation on EAFM specially to LCEs</li> <li>Conduct seminars and workshops to 2 Cities and 9 Municipalities</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BFAR reports NSAP results Alliance for planning and management purposes</li> <li>BFAR and LGUs to continue FishR and BearR implementation</li> <li>REBYC-II CTI Project will conduct orientation with the LCEs on EAFM</li> <li>Dissemination of the EAFM process/ approach to local communities in the 2 Cities and 9 Municipalities under the Alliance</li> <li>Provision of alternative livelihood component of the management plan and mechanism (including financing) for its implementation Under the Alliance - BFAR MOA</li> <li>BFAR and academe to promote and provide assistance on active fishing gear conversion to passive fishing gear, and from capture activities to aquaculture.</li> <li>Introduce and demonstrate sustainable</li> </ul>

## IMPLEMENTATION

- SAMAR SEA ALLIANCE
  - 11 LGUs
- BFAR
- DILG
- PCG
- MARINA
- CSO
- NGO
- PO
- FISHERMEN / FISHERFOLK
- BOAT OWNERS
- FISH VENDORS
- OTHER FISH WORKERS
- ALL STAKEHOLDERS

THANK YOU

### Annex 5: Action Plan/ Way Forward

Issues/ Sector	Specific Action	Concerned Personnel	Timeline
Research	Study on Traps (Accordion)	Efren Hilario	On going
	Other related Studies by SSU	Prof Renato Diocton	On going
Capacity Building	To include capacity building of AFLET (focus on law enforcement i.e. seminars)		After quarterly meeting/establishment of AFLET/ 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2017
Law Enforcement	Endorsement of AFLET	Alliance/LGUs	OK/incorporated in work plan and SSFMP
	Consensus (uniformity) on the penalty/fine sharing scheme		
	Color coding scheme		
General	Focal Person - Subject to official endorsement by the Alliance	Marcos Sabido John Meniano (as additional personnel)	OK/agreed by TWG members
Implementation of the SSFMP	Specific Role of Samar Sea Alliance		OK/incorporated in workplan and SSFMP
	Endorsement of the SSMP to Alliance and BFAR		Next quarterly meeting / by November in Almagro
	Fund Sourcing (External Funding Support)		Next quarterly meeting / by November in Almagro
	Internal Funding	Alliance / define LCE's roles	
	Contribution of the OPA (**Approved regular contribution of approximately 1M by the OPA)	OPAg	
	Support of BFAR roadmap in Samar Sea		Before quarterly meeting (November)
Support to Potential Future Project on Sustainable Trawl Fisheries in SEA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collect/gather information</li> <li>• Alliance to become authority-to legitimize fishing highway</li> <li>• Active gears to shift to passive</li> </ul>	BFAR 8, CO, academe and concerned LGUs	Start by January
Alliance not fully operationalized	Resolution to formally operationalize the Alliance		
Structure of the Alliance	LGUs to designate/staff representative to the alliance		
	Resolution to formally operationalize		
Role of relevant agency/ies	To include DENR (PENRO) to oversee the implementation of MPAs, Mangrove reforestation and critical habitat		



