



**Establishment and Operation of a Regional System of
Fisheries *Refugia* in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand**

REPORT

**THE FIRST SITE LEVEL INCEPTION WORKSHOP AND BASELINE
DATA COLLECTION IN CORON, PALAWAN**

PALAWAN, PHILIPPINES

21 MARCH 2017

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First published in Phrasamutchedi, Samut Prakan, Thailand in March 2017 by the SEAFDEC-UNEP-GEF Fisheries Refugia Project, Training Department of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center

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For citation purposes this document may be cited as:

NFRDI/Philippines, 2017. Establishment and Operation of a Regional System of Fisheries Refugia in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand, Report of the First Site Level Inception Workshop and Baseline Data Collection in Coron, Palawan. Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center, Training Department, Samut Prakan, Thailand; FR/REP/PH01, 9 p.

ACTIVITY REPORT

- 1) Upon arrival to Coron, Palawan the group had a short meeting regarding the upcoming orientation seminar & coordination with the LGU of Coron. The group planned the flow of activities for the next 3 days.
- 2) On the second day, the group visited the landing site in the Poblacion near the Coron Public Market early in the morning. We observed fish landing in the area as well as the fish market to check the fish species landed and sold in the market. We also flown a quadcopter drone for an aerial survey of Coron town. In the afternoon we met the Project Director Mr. Chris Paterson and Weerasak Yingyuad to talk about the agenda of the orientation seminar on March 21, 2017. We drafted the agenda as well as the matrix for the workshop.
- 3) On the third day the group visited the Office of the Municipal Agriculture to meet Mr. Geronimo Gevela the Municipal Agriculturist Officer of Coron, Palawan. We informed him the purpose of the visit. We proceed to the Office of the Mayor of Coron to give a courtesy call. We meet Mayor Jerry Barrocoso and the Municipal Councilors of Coron, we informed them about the Fisheries Refugia Project and gave a brief background, we also informed that Coron, Palawan is one of the chosen sites for the establishment of Fisheries Refugia. Mayor Barracoso and the Councilors was invited to attend in the Orientation Seminar of the Project. The Mayor informed us that the Municipality of Coron will support the project and they are very fortunate that one of the sites will be established in Coron.
- 4) After the courtesy call, we proceed to Brgy. Bintuan to visit fisheries landing sites in the area and also fly drone for the aerial survey of the area. First we visit Sitio Lilibquen were small fishing boats landed their catch. We also visit one landing area in Brgy. Bintuan and have an aerial survey in the area, photos of the Aerial surveys are attached as **Annex I**.
- 5) On March 21, 2017 the Meeting started around 9:30AM at Darayonan Lodge and participated in by LGU, BFAR MIMAROPA PFO, ECOFISH, CENRO, MFARMC, PCSD, Maritime Police and Fisheries Stakeholders. A welcome message was delivered by
- 6) Councilor Yuri Palanca, Chair of the Committee on Agriculture of Coron. Councilor Palanca welcomes SEAFDEC Representatives, NFRDI Team and participants attended the orientation. He mentioned that the Coron Local Government is glad that the Refugia Project chosen Coron, Palawan as one of the sites for the establishment of Fisheries Refugia. There were nine established Marine Protected Areas in Coron with the help of ECOFISH Project and they also created Calamianes Marine Protected Area Network to help in managing these MPAs.
- 7) Mr. Noel Barut discussed the agenda items for the Orientation workshop:
 - a) Summary of Workshop Objectives
 - b) Background to the Strategic action Programme for South China Sea and Dev't of Fisheries Refugia Initiative
 - c) Overview of the Objectives of Fisheries Refugia Initiatives
 - d) Project Management Framework, including Provisional Terms of reference for the Site Level Management Boards
 - e) Identification of Municipal Programs and Projects Relating to Sustainable Dev't
 - f) Preparation of inventory of Sectoral Policies, Operational Workplans and Regulation/Ordinances
 - g) Discussion on Communications and use of media
 - h) Application of Aerial Survey Technology in Baseline settings and Monitoring
 - i) Discussion of priority fisheries pieces and threats to fish life cycle and critical habitat linkages; and

j) Presentation of 4-year workplan

- 8) Mr. Barut also presented a brief background on the Phase I of the Fisheries Refugia Project entitled Reversing Environmental Degradation Trend in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand.
- 9) Mr. Chris Paterson presented the Background to the Strategic Action Programmes for the South China Sea and the development of the Fisheries Refugia Initiative, Overview of the Objectives of the Fisheries Refugia, and the Project Management Framework including provisional terms of reference for the Site Level Management Boards.
- 10) A workshop on the Identification of Municipal Programs and Projects relating to Sustainable Development & Inventory of Sectoral Policies, Operational Workplan, and rules and regulations was also conducted using the matrix distributed to the participants. After the workshop representatives from the participants presented their outputs. Workshop outputs attached as **Annex II**.
- 11) Communication and use of Media to disseminate information on the Fisheries Refugia Project was also discussed in the orientation seminar. Comments from participants was also solicited, they suggested that using posters, local comics, print ads and social media can be used to disseminate information about the project.
- 12) Mr. Weerasak Yingyuad, Project Technical Coordinator presented the application of Aerial Survey Technology in baselines setting and monitoring, he also presented outputs (video & Photos) of aerial survey in Coron.
- 13) Mr. Christopher Paterson presented to the participants the four years workplan of the project and its now on the implementation of the year 1 activities.
- 14) Mr. Valeriano Borja gave his closing remarks and gave his thanks to the participants for their active participation and cooperation as well as their willingness to help in the implementation of the project in this area.



Group Photo after the Orientation Seminar of Fisheries Refugia Project

Annex I



Aerial Photo at Brgy. Bintuan Landing Site



Aerial Photo at Sitio Lilibquen Landing Site



Aerial Photo of Coron Town



Aerial Photo of Coron Market & Landing Site

Annex II
Workshop Output Matrix of Municipal Programs and
Projects Relation to Sustainable Developments

| Development Area | Priority Programs and Projects |
|---|--|
| Rural Development/Agriculture/Fisheries/Aquaculture | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FishR and BoatR; • Strengthening of MFARMC; • Strengthening of Rural based organizations; • Continuous application on wildlife collector's permit of fishermen; • regulation on reef fish food trading and catching; • Assist/recommend to identify potential area for fisheries development both marine and inland bodies of water; assist/provide recommendation for the alternate or polyculture in the pond or inland/form bodies of water. |
| Environment – Coastal Habitat Management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mangrove reforestation/rehabilitation; • Implementation of right sizing of fishing effort, coastal clean-up; • implementation of Municipal Fisheries and CRM Code; • implementation of closed-open season on reef fish food and siganids; • regulations on ECAN zone management; • Implementation of Integrated Coastal and Fisheries Management plan; • Implementation of coastal and water use plan; • wetland conservation; • coral and seagrass assessment; • Training of WEO |
| Environment – Coastal Water Quality | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of solid waste management; • Pollution control; • water quality conservation (clean water act 2004) |
| Protected Area Management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening of MPAs and MPA Network (Training, IEC, Provision of enforcement assets); • Establishment of additional MPAs (to achieve 30% target-area); • Establishment of Wildlife Rescue Center; • Pawikan and Dugong conservation; • recommend potential area for fisheries development and propagation of particular high valued species which much strive in the area for culture. |
| Tourism Development | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish carrying capacity for tourism sites; • Implementation SEP clearance system; • Implementation of Zero carbon Resort (ZCR) Project; • FLAGT for Tourism establishment |
| Livelihoods and Poverty Alleviation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seaweed farming; • fish processing; • Aquaculture; • Marine culture (Fish cage); • Sea cucumber ranching; • organic farming (address malnutrition); • crop production; • livestock and poultry; |

| | |
|---|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tilapia production; • Crab fattening; • NGP- National Greening Program; • extend livelihood fisheries development designed for marginal fishermen that are available at BFAR Regional office; • extend technical assistance in livelihood fisheries particularly in aquaculture that available in BFAR. |
| Freshwater Supply and Wastewater Management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree planting; • protection of watersheds; • Strengthening of declared watershed area per barangay |
| Women's Group Involvement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening of Women's associations; • provision of livelihood; • NGP (PO) CBFM |
| Maritime Patrol including Bantay-dagat | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formation of Bantay-dagat and deputation; • assist implementing arm (PNP) of LGU in combat all forms of illegal fishing within municipal waters; • assist/file cases involving apprehended illegal fishing within municipal waters; • assist/recommend to update policy in regulating fishing activities within municipal waters for sustainable used. • |

Workshop Output Matrix of inventory of Sectoral Policies, Operational Workplans and Regulation/Ordinances

| Development Area | Sectoral Policies, Operational Workplans and Regulation/Ordinances |
|--|---|
| Rural Development/Agriculture/ Fisheries/Aquaculture | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipal Fisheries & Coastal Resources Management Code-CLUP/ ECAN Zoning c/o M.P.D.C. • Municipal Fishing Vessel Ordinance- 48A • Fisheries code 10654 • Fish Processing • National Livelihood • Seaweeds farming • Crab Fattening • Marine Culture • Fish R • BFARMC • MFARMC |
| Environment – Coastal Habitat Management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • -Mangrove Rehab (DENR) • Coral and Sea Grass Assessment (DENR) • International Coastal Clean-up (DENR) • Water quality Control Conservation (DENR) • -FlagT for Tourism Establishment • Foreshore Lease • Pawikan/ Dugong Conservation |
| Environment – Coastal Water Quality | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • -Pollution Control • Water Quality Control Conservation • -Watershed Area Proclaimed (Protection) • WQMA-Water Quality Management Area |

| | |
|---|---|
| Protected Area Management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MPA Ordinances (SB Secretariat) |
| Tourism Development | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • -Tourism Code (Draft) • CTBA • CATE • ACTO • CLTGA • COTOPDA • ABUH Transport • COSTODA • SSTDI • Flag for Tourism Establishment |
| Livelihoods and Poverty Alleviation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • -4P'S (National Government) • -NGP –National Greening Program (P.O) CBFM Mangrove |
| Freshwater Supply and Wastewater Management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SalinTubig (LGU) • NAWASA • Mactan Rock Private Water Project (Note: no existing waste management project) • Declared Watershed Area for every Barangay |
| Women's Group Involvement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • -VAWC • -NGP (P.O) CBFM |
| Maritime Patrol including Bantay Dagat | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • -Seaborne Patrol Operation (PNP MG, BFAR QRT, Palawan Rescue 165 (Provincial Government) • No Bantay Dagat Existing |