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PEW FELLOWS PROGRAM
 IN MARINE CONSERVATION



SCOTIA



Planting One Million Mangroves in Cebu!

Marettes Alenton

In September of 2006, the Coastal Conservation and Education Foundation started a program in collaboration with the Provincial Government of Cebu to celebrate Cebu's Coastal Protection Month. This program was the One Million Mangroves for Cebu Project that focuses on rehabilitating threatened mangrove forests that play an important role in maintaining the ecological balance of coastal ecosystems. It aims to achieve the planting of one million mangrove propagules and seedlings in the entire province. The program highlights and encourages the active involvement of schools, businesses, civic groups, and the general public to join in the planting.



Governor Gwen Garcia of Cebu Province plants her mangrove seedling.

Mangrove trees have continually been cut over the years and have despoiled fisheries resources. In 1918, the Philippines had an estimated 450,000 hectares of mangrove cover. After 75 years, over 310,000 hectares of the country's mangrove cover has been lost due to cutting, conversion of mangrove swamps to fishponds, and in general, poor management by communities and local governments.

Mangroves play an important role in maintaining the ecological balance of the coastal ecosystem. Mangrove forests act as sieves in the coastal zone, preventing the

damaging effect of upland sediments that wash down to the coasts on seagrass beds and fragile coral reefs. Aside from promoting clear water for the growth of corals and seagrass, mangrove roots serve as hiding places for young animals and fishes, the branches and leaves provide shelter for birds and wildlife. Mangrove leaves fall and decompose into microscopic *detritus* that serve as food for animals and fish in the mangrove areas. Aside from this, the crown and stem of mangrove trees serve as physical barriers that absorb the force of winds and waves that can cause damage to the coastal communities.

There are several objectives for this project. Mainly, these are to (1) reforest identified degraded mangrove areas in Cebu; (2) involve public support in protecting our mangroves; (3) provide logistical support to rehabilitate mangrove areas, develop mangrove nurseries and to sustain current mangrove plantation efforts; and (4) develop a collaborative spirit among local governments, national government agencies, non-government organizations, and the private sector to protect Cebu's coastal environment.



Grade 12 students from Cebu International School - Cebu do their share and plant their mangrove seedlings in Liloan, Cebu.

Most of the Cebu Province's mangroves have been lost to land reclamation, fishpond development, industrial pollution, and other related causes. The decline in mangrove ecosystems has caused a decline in fish production and overall catch in municipalities. For every hectare of mangrove cut down, approximately 1.08 tons per hectare of fish catch per year is reduced.

Everybody is invited to join in our efforts to rehabilitate our mangrove habitats and conserve what is left after all the destruction. To organize trips to help plant seedlings in the nurseries, or to plant in identified mangrove reforestation areas, please contact us at CCE Foundation where we can assist you in arrangements with the target areas and communities and provide your group with a mangrove planting orientation. Remember, it can take many years before a propagule will grow into a mature mangrove tree, but only a minute to cut it down. Join our efforts and plant your mangrove today!

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Status of coastal and marine resources—the need to reverse the trends!

Dr. Alan T. White

Whenever we need a justification for our work in coastal resources management and marine conservation, we need look no farther than recent research showing the status of fisheries in Southeast Asia and the Philippines. The condition of coastal ecosystems and fisheries in Southeast Asia is generally declining due to numerous factors as highlighted by many studies over the last 20 years. Fisheries trends, based on recent assessments in Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand by Stobutzki et al. (2006) where time series of scientific trawl survey data (spanning 12-49 years) were used to assess changes in the total biomass of demersal species over time, are shown below. All countries showed large declines in the total biomass ranging from 32 percent to 96 percent decline in relation to the estimated original biomass. The Gulf of Thailand is particularly ominous with only about 8 percent of its original biomass remaining as measured in the 1960s. This well documented case of fisheries decline in Thailand is due to the systematic and relentless commercial trawl fishing in the Gulf. In the 3 countries, exploitation ratios (fishing mortality : total mortality), calculated from length frequency data, were generally >0.5, suggesting severe over-fishing. Environmental degradation through declines in water quality, modification and loss of critical habitats are important contributing factors to the decline of fisheries in these 3 countries.

Remaining biomass of demersal fisheries in Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand

	Malaysia	Philippines	Thailand
Percent of original biomass estimates	4-20	12-64	8
Baseline year(s)	1960s	Circa 1950	1965
Most recent data	1998	1996	1995
Notes	Greatest declines in depths <50m	Various bays and important fishing areas	Gulf of Thailand

Source: Stobutzki et al. 2006
 Coastal habitats that provide significant ecological and physical support to fisheries in Southeast Asian countries are coral reefs, seagrass beds, mangroves and estuaries. All of these are being impacted in numerous ways from coastal development that includes: urbanization, ports, expansion of aquaculture, fishing operations, pollution, among others. The net result is a decline of functional and quality habitat areas that continue to contribute ecologically to near-shore fisheries ecosystems.



School of scads in Sangat Resort House Reef, Coron, Palawan.

The message is very clear, we absolutely need to reverse the decline of these habitats and water quality if we want to rehabilitate our fisheries. And, we need to manage our fisheries with a view that they are a limited resource that can support only limited fishing effort. We need marine protected areas and management outside of protected areas to ensure sustainable fish catches. Luckily, Philippine fish biomass has not declined as much as in Thailand, let's make sure that never happens!

Read and enjoy our newsletter and get a taste for what it really takes to turn the tide on our declining habitats and fisheries!

Source: Stobutzki, I.C., G.T. Silvestre, A. Abu Talib, A. Krongprom, M. Supongpan, P. Khemakorn, N. Armada and L.R. Garces. 2006. Decline of demersal coastal fisheries resources in three developing Asian countries. *Fisheries Research* 78: 130-142

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Environmental Governance 2: Strengthening the Southwestern MPA Cluster in Cebu

Darwin Raymundo

A new nine-month project was started in southwestern Cebu covering the municipalities of Moalboal, Badian and Alegria. CCE Foundation was subcontracted as a local service provider to strengthen this cluster through a specific task order given by the USAID/Philippines Environmental Governance 2 Project (EcoGov2).

EcoGov 2 supports the GRP's and USAID Philippines' goal of revitalizing the economy by promoting better environmental governance, stimulating economic growth, and increasing food security. Specifically, EcoGov 2 promotes improved environmental governance among local government institutions, promotes the better management of forest lands, promotes the better management of coastal areas, encourages better management of municipal solid waste, and facilitates LGU investment into sanitation facilities. As a successor to EcoGov 1 project of 2001-2004, EcoGov 2 continues its activities in improving and building on accomplishments since then. Development Alternatives, Inc. (DAI) is the prime contractor of both phases.

EcoGov 1 focused on creating new MPAs and implementing CRM plans of the local governments. CCE Foundation had also received two previous grants from EcoGov 1 and EcoGov 2. In terms of both creating new MPAs and strengthening existing ones, EcoGov promotes, where appropriate, the biophysical and administrative clustering of MPAs. The project tries to create MPAs that

are adjacent or near to one another in order to have a meaningful ecological impact. Further, geographically clustered MPAs allow for economies of scale in terms of management, enforcement, and community outreach and education.

EcoGov and the local service providers will be gauging the overall performance of this effort through three procedures: (1) participatory monitoring and evaluation of the coral reefs within the MPAs, (2) performance of the management bodies using the MPA rating system modified with governance attributes, and (3) perception surveys conducted within the relevant barangays. Other activities expected of the project are marine sanctuary network orientations, the creation of an action plan for information, education, communications (IEC) and capacity-building, MPA network implementation and evaluation, and feedback on fisheries profiling and FISH BE (an EcoGov information database) analyses.

This new project will run from January until September, 2007. Using the lessons learned from CCEF's successful interventions with the Southeastern Cebu Cluster, the team hopes to achieve just as much success in the Southwestern Cluster. With this collaborative endeavor with EcoGov 2, CCE Foundation looks forward to a productive year in network development and management as well as increased partnership with local governments and private organizations.



CCE Foundation Staff and participants of the MPA Orientation Workshop of the Southwestern Cebu Cluster made up of Moalboal, Badian and Alegria.

CCE Foundation works with SCOTIA in Moalboal, Cebu

Romel Kirit



Romel Kirit gives a lecture on the municipal user-fee system to Moalboal stakeholders.

CCE Foundation received a grant from the Sustainable Coastal Tourism in Asia (SCOTIA) – Philippines Project as program assistance for the implementation of the municipal user fee system and its operating mechanisms in the Municipality of Moalboal, Cebu. The project was initiated by CCEF to enhance the economic benefits derived from tourism activities in coral reef areas by establishing, through legislation of the municipal government of Moalboal, the environmental user fees for diving and mooring.

Moalboal is known for its impressive fringing and littoral coral reefs and is a world-class diving destination. Its main attractions are three marine sanctuaries: Saavedra Fish Sanctuary, Basdiot Fish Sanctuary, and Pescador Island Marine Sanctuary. In Moalboal, an ordinance for the collection of user fees from divers and diveboat operators was passed (Municipal Ordinance No. 38-2006, dated March 29, 2006). For user fees to be considered an effective management tool, full implementation of the entire system of ticketing, collection, reporting, income sharing, and monitoring must be ensured.

The agreement is based on the successful completion of tasks and the following outputs and milestones: (1) the Implementing Rules and Regulations of the environmental user fee ordinance; (2) information, education and communication materials developed and distributed; (3) education programs conducted in five coastal barangays; (4) training modules on the environmental user fee collection; and (5) the implementation of the environmental user fee ordinance and collection system. Together, both organizations look forward to an effective and functioning user fee system by the end of March, 2007.

A PRISM UPDATE

Analeh Patindol



Maternal and Child Health for Nurses participants with trainers Dr. Cynthia Paredes-Garcia, Joy Pepito, and CCEF staff.

The project entitled “Building responsible families towards enhanced productivity in the workplace: Institutionalizing a family welfare program in the Mactan Economic Zone” is being implemented in 30 member companies of the Mactan Export Processing Zone - Human Resources Association (MEPZ-HRA) through the CCEF. With support from the Private Sector Mobilization for Family Planning (PRISM), the project aims to promote the family welfare program in the 30 MEPZ-HRA member companies through various activities including technical assistance, capacity building, and social marketing.

To date, the trainings conducted have been the Program Management Team training, the Peer Educators training, and Basic Maternal and Child Health for Nurses. For the Program Management Team (Oct. 26-27, 2006 and Feb. 1-2, 2007), 28 companies participated with the general objective of enabling participants to organize, train and mobilize company family planning (FP) management teams to install Workplace Family Planning (WFPF) Programs.

During the Peer Educators’ training (Jan. 29 and Feb 5, 2007), 20 companies participated. Objectives of this training were to (1) demonstrate effectively the roles, attributes, and values of an effective FP peer educator; (2) persuasively describe the need for and significance of FP; (3) articulate basic facts on fertility awareness and FP program methods; and (4) acquire and demonstrate the skills that are necessary for effective interpersonal communication.

The Basic Training on Maternal and Child Health for Nurses (Feb. 13-16, 2007) was held at Majestic Restaurant, Marina Mall, Lapulapu City. Topics included Fertility Awareness and Review of Male and Female

Dr. Patrick Christie: 2007 PEW Fellow in Marine Conservation

(excerpts from: 2007 Pew Fellows in Marine Conservation: Developing New Tools for Ocean Protection. 14 February, 2007. Contact Polita Glynn and Chris Dudley)

This year, our very own Dr. Patrick Christie is a recipient of the 2007 Pew Fellowship in Marine Conservation, awarded by the Pew Institute for Ocean Science. It is the Pew Institute’s mission to advance ocean conservation through science. “Each year, we are privileged to select five new Pew Fellows in Marine Conservation from an outstanding group of international nominees. We are able to support rising stars who are developing new solutions to critical marine conservation issues,” says Elen Pikitch, Ph.D., executive director of the Pew Institute for Ocean Science at the University of Miami’s Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science and a former Pew Fellow herself.

Dr. Patrick Christie is an assistant professor at the University of Washington’s School of Marine Affairs and the Jackson School of International Studies in Seattle, Washington. His project will address the unprecedented

loss of biodiversity, habitats and ecological function in the Philippines by facilitating the formation and management of marine protected area networks in the region. He will collaborate with CCEF Foundation to conduct a multi-stakeholder process for the network design and implementation. Dr. Alan White worked with Patrick in 1988/89 when he started in Philippines as a Peace Corps volunteer.

According to Dr. Pikitch, “The 2007 Pew Fellows in Marine Conservation are an impressive accomplished group, and we hope that this award will further propel their efforts to conserve the ocean environment.” Dr. Christie is one of five recipients of the grant awarded internationally. Dr. Pikitch also recognized the complex problems that the Fellows will tackle. “The 2007 Fellows are well equipped to construct new tools to restore and protect oceans in the face of the daunting challenges imposed by climate change and its impact on ocean ecosystems.”

Bantayan Island Coastal Resource Management Project

Marettes Alenton

The new Bantayan Island Coastal Resource Management Project funded by the Ford Group Philippines, an affiliate of Ford Motor Company, began its activities in December of 2006. The project seeks to improve the management of coastal and marine areas in Visayan Sea, particularly three existing marine protected areas located in Sta. Fe, Bantayan Island, Cebu.

Reproductive Anatomy/Physiology, Maternal and Child Health – Pre-natal and post-natal care, Contraceptive Technology, introduction to Counseling, and the G-A-T-H-E-R approach which is a simplified concept in family planning counseling and clinic management. They also discussed guidelines in using and distributing tetanus toxoid vaccines and ensuring safe injections.



Program Management Team training - Batch 3.



Ethan Lucas lectures on basic reef monitoring techniques to fishermen and municipal government officials.

Upon submitting a proposal to Ford Foundation, Ford chose to limit activities to education campaigns to initiate the groundworking coastal management for one year. The activities include providing information and education through various trainings and material dissemination; the holding of essay-writing and poster-making contests in 4 schools; and *barangay* consultations.

To date, CCEF has already conducted a rapid area assessment of Sa. Fe, three reef monitoring activities, two *barangay* consultations, community surveys, and a presentation to the Mayor and legislative council of Sta. Fe. Many of CCEF’s projects are concentrated in Southern Cebu and Ford’s grant has given the foundation an opportunity to work in Northern Cebu.

Gil Entoma: A Local Champion in the Coastal Zone

Rizaller Amolo



Nong Gil speaks at a forum on MPA management.

In the implementation of the Local Governance for Coastal Management Project (LGCMP), we work with people who inspire us in many ways. We meet fishers who are ready to take part in the protection of the valuable coastal resources on which they depend. We partner with municipal mayors with will to rigidly pursue mandates of resource management. We stand side by side with law enforcers willing to strictly enforce laws and protect their communities. These local champions have become CCE Foundation's inspiration in its effort to assist local government and stakeholders in providing CRM as a basic service to its coastal constituents.

Gilberto "Nong Gil" Cariri Entoma, is from Lumbang, Dalaguete, Cebu, born in February 6, 1955. He has been married for over 30 years to Odet, and is a father to three children. His fellow fishers and peers call him "Hilly".

Nong Gil is a born organizer and has been a part of several organizations defending peoples' rights. For 9 years he worked in the Visayas Glass Factory and headed its employee organization. In 1982, he became a full-time organizer of Kilusang Mayo Uno, a prominent labor group.

However, Nong Gil felt he had to organize the fishers in Dalaguete in their struggle to protect the sea from destructive and illegal fishers. In 1991, Nong Gil, with his close friend Julie Paz, organized the *Kapunungan sa Mananagat sa Casay*. He now chairs the Dalaguete Municipal Fisheries and Aquatic Resource Management Council (MFARMC), a fisheries policy recommendation body to the municipal legislative body. He is also on the Board of Directors of the Dalaguete Federation of People's Organizations.

Whenever we get the chance to chat with him, he is always passionate in sharing stories of interesting fishing trips or his plan of

action in approaching issues on the coast that affects fishers. Priority issues on which he has taken much interest include: the intrusion of commercial fishing, illegal foreshore structure development depriving marginal fishers of their boat landing areas, and the enforcement of marine protected areas. When he is not attending meetings, trainings, or seminars, or when he is not fishing, Nong Gil spends his extra time at the sanctuary guardhouse.

In 2006, he was awarded as "Outstanding Fish Warden" in a region-wide search for Outstanding Fisheries Achievers during Fish Conservation Week conducted by the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources in Central Visayas. Moreover, the Dalaguete MFARMC, which he chairs, was also awarded as "Outstanding MFARMC".

Nong Gil is what we call the true conservationist. He recognizes that his life depends on the very resources he protects. Success of CRM implementation in local government depends greatly on the influence of local champions. With their commitment and proactive spirit they inspire communities to conserve what is important. They remind us that our work, in the end, really does make a difference.

CCE Foundation Collaborates with WorldFish Center, Malaysia

Agnes Sabonsolin

WorldFish is currently implementing the Asian MPA Project that focuses on collating information from different marine protected areas (MPAs) in Asia. Before their collaboration with CCE Foundation, they acquired MPA datasets from MPA Global and aimed to obtain datasets from CCEF during a 3-day meeting (November 13-15, 2006). Representing CCEF, Agnes Sabonsolin (REMOTE Team) traveled to the WorldFish Center in Penang Malaysia where she aided WorldFish in updating their current data and provided reliable coordinates for GIS mapping. To date, they have 227 Philippine Protected Areas (PAs) on their database. Needing more information on established MPAs in the Philippines (including forest reserves, water-sheds, and lakes), CCEF's database, which contains 336 MPAs, provided good inputs to be incorporated in ReefBase.

The first day began with WorldFish's presentation of their Asian MPA Project and GIS mapping (that may be viewed on in their website). They are developing a new version of ReefBase which they will release sometime



Agnes (standing, 2nd from right) and the staff of the WorldFish Center during their 3-day standardization and data-sharing workshop.

in 2007. Agnes presented CCEF's projects and the MPA Database and Rating System. The Asian MPA Project Team attended, including Coordinator Mark Nordeloos who expressed his thanks to CCEF for its collaboration. Coordinates were reviewed using shape files prepared by Rochae Cameron - an Australian Youth Ambassador for Development volunteer at CCEF. This was also an opportunity for Agnes to update CCEF's information and report any inaccuracies in coordinates to local governments in the Philippines.

The remaining days were spent standardizing file formats from the MPA database to ones compatibles with WorldFish's. On the morning of the third day, the team presented all the work accomplished with the reassurance of future sharing of information and the finalized database. The foundation continues to work closely with WorldFish through representative Moi Khim Tan in terms of updates on Philippine data. The foundation looks forward to a productive partnership with WorldFish in terms of collecting and generating relevant data for improved management of protected areas.



The WorldFish Center in Penang, Malaysia.

CCEF joins the Coral Disease Working Group (CDWG) Conference at UP Diliman

Paula Lozada

The Coral Disease Working Group (CDWG) of the Coral Reef Targeted Research and Capacity for Management (CRTR) Program is a faction of some of the world's leading researchers working on coral reef diseases. Under the Chair of Professor C. Drew Harvell of Cornell University, the goal of CDWG is to fill critical information gaps about coral reef diseases to assist in the development of management and conservation strategies that protect reef ecosystems from damage due to diseases.

Yearly, CDWG organizes seminars and workshops such as one recently conducted at the Marine Science Institute, University of the Philippines, Diliman from January 19-21, 2007. For this conference, CDWG partnered with UPMSI's Philippines/Southeast Asia Center of Excellence (CoE) led by Dr. Edgardo Gomez (Philippines CoE Coordinator). The conference was also carried out in preparation for the workshop conducted at the Bolinao Marine Laboratory from January 22-26, 2007.

The conference was a venue for the members of the working group, and invited scientists, researchers and graduate students, to convene and discuss the global status of coral diseases and to share updates on research done by members and their students. CCE Foundation was fortunate to send a representative, Paula Lozada (REMOTE), through the invitation of CDWG member, Dr. Laurie Raymundo of the University of Guam to join the 2-day conference in Diliman.

The conference touched on issues concerning coral epidemiology, discovery of new diseases or mutations, disease outbreaks, vectors of coral diseases and coral resistance and assessment efforts. Both local and international scientists, as well as graduate students, were given opportunities to present their research papers and share their opinions on topic discussed within those two days. The working group was also able to address issues and formulate better approaches in dealing with coral diseases. With collaboration of different minds the conference was a venue to better understand the way our coral reef ecosystems react to human stressors and global warming.

CCE Foundation represented at ITMEMS - Cozumel, Mexico

Rizaller Amolo

On October 16 to 20, 2006, the 3rd International Tropical Marine Ecosystems Management Symposium was conducted in Cozumel, Mexico. The International Tropical Marine Ecosystems Management Symposium (ITMEMS) is a major activity of the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI). Convened previously in Australia in 1998 and then in Manila, Philippines in 2003, ITMEMS has facilitated productive discussions and information sharing among researchers and environmental managers of coral reefs and related ecosystems. It has also set the directions in the implementation of the International Coral Reef (ICRI) Framework for Action.

ITMEMS 3 was a gathering of over 300 people from 45 countries with broad ranges of experiences as managers, scientists, businessmen, non-government organization and development workers. During this event they found agencies sharing a common goal in conservation and discussed lessons learned in implementing various programs in the coastal zone.

There were 49 workshops and two sessions conducted to discuss priority issues and problems in the management of tropical marine ecosystems. These workshops were subdivided into 13 themes:

- (1) Building resilience into coral reef management;
- (2) Disaster management and restoration;
- (3) Enforcement and investigation;
- (4) Fisheries and aquaculture;
- (5) Human impact;
- (6) Information and knowledge management;
- (7) Modeling and decision support;
- (8) Communication, education and awareness;
- (9) Integrated and participatory strategies;
- (10) Sustainable tourism;
- (11) Economic valuation of marine natural resources;
- (12) Partnerships and strategic alliances; and
- (13) Sustainable financing.

One of the objectives of ITMEMS 3 was to recognize and develop a mutual understanding of the roles of local government units in the management of coral reefs and other coastal ecosystems. During the

symposium, a local governance forum was conducted to solicit local government chiefs' views on how to generate support in the management of their local coastal zones. Local mayors and their counterparts from Mexico (Cozumel), Tanzania, Australia (Queensland), Zanzibar, and the Philippines (Alaminos and Puerto Princesa) participated and provided some valuable insights on how to win support from local governments.

Over 15 participants from the Philippines attended the symposium and presented their experiences. The foundation was able to send Rizaller Amolo (project coordinator of CCEF's Local Governance for Coastal Management Project) through support provided by the Organizing Committee and International Coral Reef Action Network (ICRAN).

Amolo presented the CCEF experience in involving communities and their roles in marine protected area (MPA) management during the Sustainable Tourism Workshop. The presentation explained the process of establishing and managing Philippine marine protected areas, with a focus on Gilutongan Marine Sanctuary and Southern Cebu sanctuaries. It shed light on the different levels of community involvement. It also highlighted tangible benefits and impacts of the sanctuaries on the community and environment. Most of the participants recognized the Philippines as a major forerunner in efforts to engage communities in sanctuary management.



Rizaller Amolo, represents CCE Foundation, at ITMEMS Cozumel, Mexico and shares the foundation's experiences in MPA management.

Letter from the Community (MPA Project)

Mrs. Princes Aldovino, STKST Chairwoman and BBMC Adviser

It has been four years since the start of the protection of Batalang Bato Marine Sanctuary (BBMS). Have you done your responsible duty for mother earth's sake? Everyone has a responsibility in environmental protection. Age or gender are should not hinder us from doing this. All of us have a role in conserving our marine and coastal resources.

For the past six years, I have devoted my life to protecting Batalang Bato Marine Sanctuary. It's funny, after all these years I continue to encounter different people that make management a challenge. Some are self centered, others have vested interests, while others simply ignore efforts and stand back with a "wait and see" attitude. I noticed that almost all the efforts come only from the leaders. For instance, apprehending illegal fishers should be a joint municipal and community activity, not just one left to a handful of managers. All of us have the responsibility to report illegal activities to authorities with the honesty about what we see and observe, and the conviction in our stand against what is illegal. It is through sharing duties like this that we can feel the unity of the people in our *barangay*.

Batalang Bato Marine Sanctuary (BBMS) is truly the pride of our *barangay*. We are just volunteers, but the work is all on our shoulders, and the responsibility is in our hands.

We would like to express our appreciation and gratitude to CCE Foundation for continuously helping our *barangay*. Without their help we can't imagine how our situation would be right now. Would we still be enjoying the view of the beautiful corals and benefiting from the bountiful fish catch we have today?

CCEF raised our awareness of the importance of our environmental resources during a time when our fishery resources were on the verge of collapse. They explained the status of our sea and how we should confront the situation through conservation, protection, and management. We, the people, should implement what was stated in the Fisheries Code so future generations will still have the same resources for their survival.



Princes Aldovino (6th from left) during the Batalang-bato MS launching.

We want appeal to all the *barangay* captains in the Municipality of Tingloy for their cooperation. Explain to your constituents, particularly the fisherfolk, that fishing is prohibited beyond the 15-meter buffer zone of BBMS. We will be grateful for such efforts. BBMC also does not have sufficient funds for regular patrolling. With your assistance we can realize better patrolling activities, which we would greatly appreciate.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the groups who visit Batalang Bato to do research and gather information about strategies in conservation and protection. The people from Real-Quezon, Aurora Quezon, Lingayen Pangasinan, University of the Philippines (UP) Los Baños, Saint Scolastica, UP-Marine Science Institute, MEC, Conservation International, CCEF and their Earthwatch volunteers, volunteer divers from Dive Solana, Planet Dive Resort, and other resorts - a million thanks for lending us gear needed during reef monitoring activities and for your never-ending support for the project. Thank you to Dr. Jovet and his friends for conducting three medical and dental missions here in 2001 (General Mission and Oplan *Ngipin*) and 2002 (Oplan *Mata*). We look forward to working with you again. Special thanks to the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Dr. Alan White, Mrs. Vangie White and to all CCE Foundation staff including Anna Meneses, Danny Ocampo, Paeng Lopez and all volunteers for your selfless help. To the 2006 biophysical monitoring team we extend our heartfelt gratitude.

We still face so many problems and threats, but you all give us the strength and skills to face them. We will double our efforts to maintain and sustain management efforts in the conservation of our precious coastal resources for the future and the generations to come!

Introducing the Green Forum

The Green Forum (GF) is a multi-sectoral group which shall serve as watchdog for enforcement of and compliance to environmental laws and catalyst for promoting environmental-friendly practices.

The environmental concerns are categorized into the following clusters: (a) air quality management, (b) waste management, (c) integrated water resources management, (d) biodiversity conservation, (e) coastal and marine management, and (f) renewable energy.

The programs and activities of the GF involve internal and external audiences. Internal audience pertains to the members of the GF, while external audiences are those that GF aims to address its advocacies to which includes government authorities, communities, industries, and the like.

Since it was conceptualized and formed in November, 2006 through the initiative of Atty. Gloria Estenzo-Ramos of the Integrated

Bar of the Philippines, organizations involved have been sponsoring and holding orientation activities and talks on environmental issues cutting across all sectors of environment. These forums have proven to be exceptional venues to include students and private citizens in discussing prevalent environmental concerns.

Currently, there is a tour showing the multi-awarded documentary, *The Inconvenient Truth* by Al Gore, at schools and universities in Cebu City. This was initiated by the Cebu Provincial Government and Green Forum members.

CCE Foundation has become an active member in the coastal and marine management cluster of the Green Forum. CCE Foundation and all organizations of the GF invites all interested parties or individuals to join Green Forum activities when scheduled. For more information, contact us at (032) 233-6909 or 233-6947.

MPA Feature: Pasil Marine Sanctuary

Roxie Diaz



Pasil Marine Sanctuary billboard.

The 10.5 hectare Pasil Marine Sanctuary is located in the Municipality of Santander in southern Cebu. Declared by municipal ordinance and managed by the Santander Fisherfolk Association (SAFIAS) and Pasil Santander Fisherfolk Association (PASA-FA), the 4-year old MPA has shown much improvement in terms of management and biophysical health since its establishment in 2002. Over 3 years of monitoring show a 90% increase in hard coral from 20% cover (2004) to 46% (2006). Target reef species of fish have also increased from 70.3 (fish/500m²), in 2003, to 434.7 (fish/500m²) in 2006, resulting in a 992% change during 4 years of protection. All reef species of fish have increased from 1,021 (fish/500m²), in 2003, to 4,520.3 (fish/500m²) in 2006 which reflects a 225% change.

A special feature in Santander's approach to coastal protection is the imposed user fee of P100 per dive anywhere in the municipal waters of Santander. They offer a 50% local patronage discount for all Filipino divers and extra fees are charged when diving with still or moving cameras. The sanctuary management began their first day of collection on May 16, 2006. By December 2006 they had collected Php 679,100. They make a daily collection ranging between Php 3,000 to Php 4,000, or 30 to 40 tickets a day.

Now a popular dive site in southern Cebu, the Pasil Marine Sanctuary boasts of its special resident sea creatures such as the Blacktip Reef Sharks (*Carcharhinus melanopterus*), Spotted Eagle Rays (*Aetobatus narinari*), and Green Sea Turtles (*Chelonia mydas*). Because of the ongoing protection, the biophysical features of the sanctuary steadily improve, and once-rarely sighted sealife have returned to bask in the marine sanctuary.

Staff Profiles

Iolanthe Sara

A warm welcome to our newest CCE staff members: **Dean Apistar** is the new Administrative and Training Assistant of the foundation. He is originally from Legaspi City, Albay and earned his degree in B.S. Biology at Bicol University in 2006. **Shio Segi** is a Ph.D. Candidate from the School of Archaeology and Anthropology, Faculty of Arts, in the Australian National University at Canberra. He is in Cebu conducting research on the socio-cultural effects in the coastal community from the contemporary CRM intervention.

Arnold Tiro is the new Community Officer working in Mabini and Tingloy, Batangas under the MPA Project.

Jerry Ledesma is our Filipino-American volunteer from Portland, Oregon. He is a volunteer funded by Patagonia and will be assisting in developing CCEF's IEC strategies and support.

Marne Setrina is a social worker from Nueva Caceres, Oslob. Her previous experience has been in work involving the hearing impaired. She is now working with the IPOPCORM project as a CHOW. **Zoilo Ilustrisimo** is a fisheries graduate and is now the Community Organizer for the Bantayan Island CRM Project in Sta. Fe, Bantayan.

and...

Good bye and good luck to **Frannie Pabayos** (LGCMP), **Emerlinda Macalintal** (MPA Project - Batangas), **Jesselle Solivas** (Administrative Manager), **Ada Arrojado** (Administrative and Training Assistant), **Reeza Gonzaga** (BMT and PRISM Project), **Danny Alilay** (Administration - Maintenance), **Idel Rojo** (IPOPCORM Project), **Girlie Duhaylungsod** (IPOPCORM Project), and **Edna Alum** (LGCMP).

New Publications

Christie, P., D.L. Fluharty, A.T. White, L.E. Osorio, W. Jatulan, 2006. **Assessing the feasibility of ecosystem-based fisheries management in tropical contexts.** *Marine Policy* 31 (2007) p239-250.

Foundation Wishlist



The Coastal Conservation and Education Foundation, Inc.

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Website: www.coast.ph

"Promoting leadership for improved coastal resource management"

The Coastal Conservation and Education Foundation, Inc. (formerly Sulu Fund) was founded in 1998 to support marine conservation in the Philippines. The first name was taken from the Philippines' southern Sulu Sea known for its extremely high marine biodiversity unequalled in the world. The new name, Coastal Conservation and Education Foundation, is more functional and reflects the organization's goals. The CCE Foundation is focused on protecting the marine environment. It tries to help conserve and manage coral reef ecosystems and other coastal resources while promoting sustainable uses for the benefit of people throughout time.

The A. White Library and Learning Center for Coastal Resource Management

The A. White Library and Learning Center's information resources on coastal resource management and related disciplines are continuously growing! The library and learning center serves as a one-stop-shop for information and training needs on coastal management. It houses more than 2000 volumes and 5000 reprints and reports, by far the most extensive library on coastal management in the Philippines. At the same time its training facility provides a conducive venue for experts, community leaders, and other key sectors to come together, discuss issues, ideas and concerns on coastal conservation.

For more information on the A. White Library and Learning Center's services and rates, please contact us at ccef-lib@mozcom.com or the above mentioned contact numbers.