

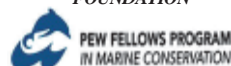


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Environmental Governance Project extends support to Siquijor to strengthen MPA Networks

Rizaller Amolo

After strengthening marine protected areas (MPAs) in Southwest Cebu municipalities, the Environmental Governance-2 (EcoGov-2) Project has expanded its assistance to the whole province of Siquijor, covering six municipalities. The project focuses its assistance in improving collaborative efforts among the municipalities, provincial government offices, and other assisting organizations in managing their existing MPAs. CCE Foundation, as a local service provider for EcoGov2 project provides technical assistance in the various CRM activities planned.

Siquijor Province has 11 existing locally declared MPAs covering almost 150 hectares. In addition, five sites have been identified and surveyed as proposed MPA sites in four municipalities. Most of the MPAs are managed by people's organizations in coordination with the local government and other assisting organizations. A Marine Management Council (MMC) that is multi-sectoral was created by municipalities to establish a co-management approach among stakeholders in their respective MPAs. Moreover, a Provincial MPA Technical Support Group (PMPATS Group) has been created, pursuant to provincial Executive Order 001 which was passed in 2006, primarily to provide support in MPA management activities.

In March 2007, a memorandum of agreement was signed by the Siquijor's provincial government and EcoGov-2 to formalize their collaboration. Present during the formal ceremonies was the Environmental Governance Regional Manager, May Ybanez, who recognized the provincial government's efforts in resource management. Likewise, the Provincial Governor acknowledged the need to coordinate various efforts that have been initiated by the municipalities within the province.

A Provincial MPA Network Forum was also conducted last May 21-22, 2007 in Dumahog Blue Wave Resort, Siquijor. The forum became a venue for MPA key players and managers to share various strategies in the management of their respective MPAs. Resource speakers from CCEF discussed basic concepts of MPA networks, social networks of MPAs, biophysical status of MPAs, and the collection of user fees.

As an output of this activity, a set of priority activities were identified based on the issues and concerns of the participants. These activities include the review of MPA plans, biophysical monitoring in MPAs and



Alreich Duran of Lazi, Siquijor shares their strategies and concerns in managing their MPAs. He also expressed the need to coordinate MPA initiatives in the entire province.

identification of proposed sites, continuing coastal law enforcement seaborne operations among the municipal and provincial operatives, and conducting information and education activities in coastal *barangays* and schools.

A training on community MPA monitoring was conducted in Maria and Larena, Siquijor on May 28 to 31, 2007. Participants came from the six Siquijor municipalities and were members of people's organizations and/or municipal fisheries technicians. During the four-day training, participants were trained to assess fish populations, estimate coral cover, monitor fish catch, accomplish CCEF's MPA Rating report guide, as well as present information gathered. The training served as an initial activity paving the way to the actual biophysical monitoring that followed on May 30 to June 2, 2007.

Subsequent to the community MPA monitoring was the underwater reef assessment which was conducted on June 26 to 30, 2007 by the PMPATS and CCE Foundation. This initiative aimed to capacitate the PMPATS groups in providing support to their MPAs.

The MPA managers of Siquijor were grateful for the assistance that the Environmental Governance-2 project has extended to their MPAs. With this coordinated provincial initiative, the MPA managers look forward to sharing and learning essential management strategies. Hopefully, well-managed MPAs will serve as a motivating factor in initiatives to improve protection in other sites. Overall success depends on the support of both provincial and municipal partners, the Bureau of Fisheries and the Provincial Environment Office along with other assisting organizations. ■

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Diversity of support and good governance are essential for effective management

Dr. Alan T. White

This issue again highlights the diversity of activities needed to support sustainable coastal management programs in the Philippines, or anywhere. Articles range from environmental governance and reproductive health to progress in marine protected areas and building national networks of MPA practitioners. All these activities are essential to build long lasting and effective coastal management.

Nevertheless, although we are doing the right things, all is not well in some areas of our practice that offer poignant lessons. To draw from the report of the recent "Saving Philippine Reefs" expedition to the Bohol Marine Triangle (BMT) area, we saw progress but also some distressing issues in this area where much attention has been focused in recent years. To quote from the soon to be released report:

The results of our interviews with fishers, resort operators, people's organization members, and barangay officials regarding their perceptions document management and enforcement problems. Poaching allegedly occurs in most of the sanctuaries. In most MPAs, the lack of enforcement is perceived as a consequence of poor institutional support in providing honoraria to sanctuary wardens. The encroachment of commercial fishers in municipal waters continues to be a threat in Bohol among others. Another important issue is the size and boundaries of the sanctuaries or core zones. Although all of the sanctuaries surveyed have boundaries that totally enclose the reef to some distance offshore, the actual boundary enforcement has wavered so that some boundaries only enclose the reef flat and not the entire reef crest and drop off where most reef fish reside. In effect, fishing is occurring within the intended core zone because of the poor placement of boundary markers. This recent development reflects a lack of strict adherence to the original municipal ordinances resulting in a wrong interpretation by the locals and tourists. As example, the snorkeling line at the Balicasag MPA along the reef crest may be confused by fishers as the MPA boundary and justify their fishing on the reef slope.

Data collected during the 2007 expedition compared with previous surveys in 2003, 1997, 1995 and earlier for several sites showed declining trends in fish densities and biomass in most sites. This indicates a need to improve enforcement with stronger support from the local governments (LGs). To further draw from the BMT, it is recommended that:

- MPA management conflicts are resolved among management groups and between stakeholders so that MPA management groups are empowered.
- Partnerships between LGs and community groups are strengthened and that LGs adopt the MPA management plans developed with community input.

- Networking is initiated among MPAs within the BMT for management groups.
- Simple and practical user-fee systems are implemented with strong institutional support.
- MPA boundaries are assessed and fixed to Municipal ordinance decisions.
- Minimum size for all no-take sanctuaries in the BMT is set at 10 hectares.
- Education and awareness campaigns for the sanctuaries are continued.

The observation that the offshore MPA boundaries enclose mostly the reef flat or crest and not the slope is worrisome because the primary benefits of the no-take sanctuary will be lost if this is the case. This is detrimental to the fish stocks inside the MPA since many of the larger sizes of fish reside along the crest to slope. If the larger sizes are depleted, this will lead to a non-functional MPA.

Thus, we must always return to the basics of our knowledge and experience to ensure that the quality of our work on MPAs and other coastal management tools is not eroded. For BMT, all is certainly not lost since several of the MPAs, namely Tawala and Balicasag, are doing well, and the overall coral cover in most of the sanctuaries is stable or improved. Nevertheless, we cannot escape from the need for "diversity of support and good governance" to make our coastal management systems effective!

Join or volunteer with CCE Foundation now if you want to contribute to this ongoing work on Philippine coasts! ■

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MSN: A social network aiming to sustain MPAs in the Philippines

Rizaller Amolo

After 30 years of efforts in marine protection, the Philippines has established over 500 marine protected areas (MPAs), a majority are small (15ha), and officially declared by municipal ordinance. However, recent studies have shown that only 15 to 20 percent of these are effectively managed. Among the factors that affect management efforts are weak governance, weak law enforcement, lack of funds and logistical support, lack of coordination among stakeholders, absence of incentive systems, and absence of standards for assessment and monitoring.

It is in this light that the Marine Protected Area Support Network (MSN) in the Philippines was set up. MSN is a multi-sectoral group of government agencies, non-government organizations, peoples' organization and academic institutions that have a common goal in supporting MPA initiatives through complementary collaborative efforts at the local, regional, and national level. It aims to build on the Philippine Marine Sanctuary Strategy (PhilMarSaSt) to contribute to the improvement of MPA management effectiveness and to achieve at least 10 percent 'full protection' of coastal areas by the year 2020. (*excerpt from P. Aliño presentation*).

In 2005 a discussion among 20 organizations led to the creation of an institutional network of MPA managers. The idea was conceptualized during various meetings and workshops on marine protection initiatives. On November 2005, a memorandum of agreement was drafted and an initial action plan was formulated. Major activities in the action plan include sourcing of funds for sustainability, organizing regional forums and adaptive management training activities, formulating an award and incentive system for MPA champions, planning an MPA Congress, and other relevant activities. Currently, Dr.

Perry Aliño of University of the Philippine Marine Science Institute heads the Secretariat Committee of the network.

To achieve its role as a support network for MPA management, the following are the objectives of MSN: (1) Formulating an action plan that supports local and regional adaptive management activities through its monitoring, evaluation, response and feedback system; (2) facilitating the establishment of incentive systems for improved MPA management and performance (e.g. annual recognition awards); (3) facilitating financial leveraging; and (4) advocating protection through policy and legislative reforms.

Various activities have been initiated to realize the network's commitment. On February 12 to 13, 2007, a regional forum for the Visayas was conducted in Cebu City. Participants from Regions 4 to 8 attended and shared their initiatives in MPA and resource management. Similar forums were conducted in Mindanao and Luzon in March and April 2007. During the forums there were deliberations to identify region-wide initiatives and possible collaboration of priority undertakings. The First Regional Training Workshop on MPAs was also conducted on June 1 to 22, 2007 in Sagay City, Negros Occidental.

More activities are planned and the creation of an awarding system is under way. Presently, entries are being screened to recognize MPA champions nationwide. Pursuing its commitment to coastal resource protection, the MSN looks forward to improved and more effective management of many MPAs involved in this social network that links managers through sustained activities that facilitates the sharing of experiences. ■



Participants of the MSN Visayas Regional Forum held in DECS-ECOTECH, Cebu City last February 12-13, 2007. Cluster made up of Moalboal, Badian and Alegria.

BY THE NUMBERS

7 number of CCEF board members

10 number of volunteers during the 2007 SPR Expedition to Bohol

number of LGUs assisted by CCEF 20

22 number of staff in CCEF as of 2007

number of MPA collaborators 28

30 number of companies being assisted by PRISM project

32 average age of CCEF staff

number of MPAs assisted by CCEF 78

339 number of MPAs in the MPA Database

1974 year Sumilon Is. Marine Reserve, the first MPA in the Philippines, was established

year CCEF was registered as an NGO 1998

206,000 number of mangroves planted, to date, for the Million Mangroves Project

Philippine pesos collected after the first 5 months of user-fee operation in Moalboal 792,700

IPOPCORM Project Ending

Reggie Sabandal



Training programs for the LGU and communities will help ensure the sustainability of IPOPCORM initiatives

The Integrated Population and Coastal Resource Management (IPOPCORM) Project of CCE Foundation, Inc. has been implementing coastal resource management and reproductive health activities in Olango Island and in Lapu-Lapu City since 2003, with support from the PATH Foundation, Philippines, Inc. In 2007, the Expanded-IPOPCORM project was implemented with funding from the United Nations fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) through PATH Foundation, Philippines Inc.

The project envisioned the installation of systems for sustainability and to institutionalize strategies and initiatives in local government plans and programs. CCEF continued to implement selected IPOPCORM-related activities (e.g. the micro-finance program, community-based distributor (CBD) sales inventory and monitoring) and continued technical assistance to key leaders and organizations in the project sites on a minimal level to sustain the project.

The project phased out at the end of June, 2007. However, CCEF has ensured the integration of reproductive health (RH) with coastal resource management (CRM) and the identification of sustainable mechanisms in the project areas. By using CRM as an entry point, the project has been able to get to the core of the recruitment process and has also greatly utilized RH as a strategy to address the pressing concerns on fisheries. Despite the close of the project in reproductive health, the foundation looks forward to other opportunities available to work in the same areas to further assist them in CRM and RH needs. Currently, the World Wide Fund (WWF) and Philippine Business for Social Progress (PBSP) are continuing their work there along similar lines of interest. ■

Foundation for the Philippine Environment elects CCEF as Regional Advisory Committee Member

Atty. Rose-Liza Eisma-Osorio

The Regional Advisory Committee of the Foundation for the Philippine Environment (FPE) has recently nominated and elected the Coastal Conservation and Education Foundation, represented by its Executive Director Atty. Rose-Liza Eisma-Osorio as one of the 13 RAC-Visayas members.

The FPE is essentially a grant-making institution which was organized in 1992 to help reverse the destruction of Philippine resources through a strategic and integrated program. Considered as the largest Philippine non- government, grant-making institution for the environment and sustainable development, FPE supports NGO initiatives in protecting the Philippine environment. Through the majority membership of its Board of Trustees and the participation of the Regional Advisory Committees (RAC), FPE's strategic goals and integrated

conservation programs are broadly discussed.

The RAC, which is created by the FPE Board of Trustees outside of the regional consultative groups is composed of NGOs, People's Organizations (PO) and academe throughout the country. They advise the Board of Trustees in policy-making, program development, governance and nomination for the incoming Board of Trustees of FPE. There is one RAC in each of the main regions of Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao. The regional RACs in its regular meetings deliberate and prioritize regional environmental issues that will guide FPE in prioritizing its programs at the regional and national levels.

The new set of RAC-Visayas members are elected for a 2-year term from 2007 to 2009. ■

Batalang-Bato Marine Sanctuary: To Be Opened for Diving

Arnold Tiro and Anna Meneses

After a long wait, the Ordinance declaring the Batalang Bato Marine Sanctuary (BBMS) in Tingloy, Batangas, was approved in April, 2007. The Batalang-Bato Management Council (BBMC) is mandated to manage BBMS. According to Municipal Councillor, Ebet Dumaul, the ordinance is a testament of the local government's sincerity in conserving and managing the waters of Tingloy. However there is still a need to formulate Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of how the marine sanctuary will be managed. The IRR will be drafted by all stakeholders such as the BBMC, Samahan Tungo sa Kaunlaran ng Sto. Tomas (STKST), Local Government Unit (LGU), Municipal Agrarian Office (MAO), Sangguniang Bayan (SB), Barangay Talahib and Sto. Tomas representatives, and the Municipal Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council (MFARMC). The IRR will include the rules for the user-fee system and tourism related activities with corresponding fees as follows:

The funds collected from the fees will be used to sustain BBMC management activities and daily operations, repair and maintenance of physical structures of the sanctuary, and other related expenses including the provision of incentives to the members of the BBMC. The funds will be managed by BBMC and will be shared as follows:

- BBMC..... 40%**
- Brgy. Talahib.....15%**
- Brgy. Sto. Tomas.....15%**
- LGU Tingloy.....30%**

The BBMS will formally open before yearend to welcome visitors with the objectives of sustaining marine conservation efforts, promoting marine ecology education, and enhancing the recreational diving experience. BBMC, along with STKST, have faced many challenges in sanctuary implementation before this point. Members have sacrificed time and energy and struggled to keep the sanctuary alive, year after year, and they anticipate that their efforts will pay off with the passing of this ordinance. ■

- Snorkeling.....P 50.00**
- Diving.....P 100.00**
- Diving with camera.....P 200.00**
- Diving with video camera.....P 300.00**

2007 Saving Philippine Reefs Expedition conducted in the Bohol Marine Triangle

Roxie Diaz

For the fourth time since 1992, the islands in the Bohol Marine Triangle (Panglao, Balicasag and Pamilacan) were chosen as the sites for the Saving Philippine Reefs expedition. This year's expedition (March 26-April 3) surveyed seven established Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), their adjacent reefs, and the local community closely situated close by to compare to data collected (for some sites) in 1983, 1984, 1992, 1999, and 2003. Data on fish abundance and species diversity, coral and substrate cover composition, invertebrate population, causes of coral damage and community perception were collected, analyzed and compared with the previous information. Ten international diving volunteers, eight of whom are regular participants and two first timers along with eight CCE Foundation staff comprised this year's dive team.

The project's main objective is to collect empirical survey data to be used as a management tool to help MPA managers and local government executives formulate relevant policies and sound regulations for the security and sustainability of their respective locally managed MPAs. The results of the expedition (substrate cover, fish abundance and diversity, and socio-economic data) will be reported back to the respective local governments and communities managing the marine sanctuaries located in the Bohol Marine Triangle.

During the entire duration of the trip, Bohol Beach Club (BBC) served as base camp for the expedition. BBC provided the team with a spacious general working area used for daily general dive briefings before heading to the respective dive boats, as well as for the nightly research presentations and project updates of CCE Foundation. BBC housed the team comfortably, fed them sumptuously and attended all the team needs with extra consideration.



Saving Philippine Reefs 2007 participants and staff.

Being my first SPR trip, I was astounded by how meticulous the participants were with their work and how proficient they were with their preparations. Since most of the volunteers have been doing this annually over several years, they have become very accustomed to the daily routines that happen during SPR trips. I admire the SPR volunteers who have been continuously contributing financially to join the trip to contribute to the research and to join CCE Foundation in its advocacy on global reef conservation.

My first SPR trip in Bohol was quite an experience because I enjoyed meeting our generous, hard-working international volunteers who are willing to go an extra mile for a cause. The SPR Expedition in 2008 will be held on a live-aboard dive boat in the Tubbataha Marine Park in Cagayancillo, Palawan. I look forward to another productive trip to increase our information bank and to meet with the regular volunteers that, quite obviously, always make each expedition worthwhile!

PRISM Project Update: Building Responsible Families

Analeh Patindol

The Mactan Export Processing Zone – Human Resources Association (MEPZ-HRA) through the CCEF is implementing the project entitled “Building responsible families towards enhanced productivity in the workplace: Institutionalizing a family welfare program in the Mactan Economic Zone” which is supported by the Private Sector Mobilization for Family Health (PRISM). The project aims to promote the family welfare program in the 30 MEPZ-HRA member companies through various activities including technical assistance and capacity building.

The 30 firms include Alta Mode, Aso Philippines, Atomed Cebu, Autoliv Izumi Philippines, Cebu Iwakami, Cebu Microelectronics, Celestica Philippines, Christ Philippines, Exas Philippines, Feeder Apparel, Globalwear Manufacturing, Halsangz Plating Cebu, Headway Caps International, Hideka Manufacturing, International Jewelry Manufacturing, Kyocera Kinseki Philippines, Mactan Apparels, Makoto Metal Technology, Matluster, Metrowear, Mosaic Nine Two Five, Pan-phil Sportswear, Phil-Japan Metal & Refined Products, Philippine Light-Leather, Philippine Makoto, Saturn

International Design & Development, Trigger Company (Philippines), Ube Electronics (Philippines), Western Wats Philippines and Integrated Microelectronics which replaced Tong Fang International.

To date, trainings that have been conducted are: Family Health Management Team (Batch 4), Peer Educators (Batch 4), Maternal and Child Health Training for Nurses (Batch 2). All companies have submitted the rapid appraisal tool, workplace family planning index, and most of them have conducted the family planning needs assessment survey as part of the baseline tools. The results of the FPNA survey are presented back to the employees and the data is utilized to address the needs for peer education work. Makoto Metal Technology, Inc., Kyocera Kinseki Philippines, Inc., Ube Electronics (Phils.), Inc. and Philippine Makoto Corporation have initiated a series of family planning orientations to provide information on the different family planning methods available including FP services available in their respective workplaces. Trained Peer Educators with the assistance of the Company

Nurses facilitated the training for MMTI and PMC.

Companies have established a regular meeting schedule with the members of the family health management team and peer educators to discuss concerns, issues encountered and plan out activities. Surprisingly, men are actively involved in the conduct of FP orientation which demonstrates a positive outcome of the training and information dissemination conducted. Christ Philippines, Inc. and the Philippines Light-Leather, Inc. celebrated its 10th year anniversary on June 15 at the function room of the Shangri-la's Mactan Resort. Games, presentations, awarding of employees (5-10 years in service) and the soft launching of the PRISM project highlighted the one-day event.

On April 26, 2007, the MEPZ-HRA convened for the general membership meeting in Waterfront Mactan, with the newly installed president of the association, Mr. Jeffrey R. Escala. The PRISM Project was given the opportunity to update the member companies on the progress of the project implementation.

Greenfest sa Sugbo

Marettes Alenton

June, being the Philippine Environment Month, Green Forum organized activities, as part of nearly a year-long series of environmental conservation activities, to enhance the awareness of the general public on the pressing ecological issues, such as global climate change, pollution, and threatened ecosystems. The Green Forum, of which CCEF is an active member, serves as a catalyst for promoting environment-friendly practices in collaboration with different organizations and local government, the Cebu City Government being the most active, so far.

The Green Forum recognizes that promoting environmental sustainability is a Millennium Development Goal which needs to be localized for its effective attainment. They have realized that it is time for people to act now in their environment and give a hand in fixing what has been destroyed – the air, the sea, and the land. It is through activities, such as the Green Fest, that the Green Forum involves civil society, the private sector, and government in addressing challenging environmental issues.

The Greenfest sa Sugbo with the theme “Our Coasts, Our Heritage” was conducted last June 9-10, 2007. A portion of the Fuente Osmeña Boulevard was closed to motorists in order to accommodate booths that showcased different environmental innovations and products to be screened by the public. The booths showcased trade booths such as solar panels, handicrafts, renewable energy, beekeeping, traditional massage, organic products, among others. A parallel series of lectures and orientations, promoting environmental protection, was

Conservation International Project:

“Establishing Partnerships with Dive Professionals for Coral Reef and Species Conservation”

Ethan Lucas

In a continuing effort to establish working relationships with all sectors involved with Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), Conservation International has recently approved a CCEF proposal which will address the issues related to recreational diving inside MPAs.

The objectives of the project are to work with dive professionals and their associated dive centers in order to conceptualize and then produce diver education materials (DVD, F.A.Q, Flip Charts, Posters, Billboards) that can be used in the classroom, on the dive boat as briefing materials and at the sanctuary locations. The initial target areas are the Verde Passage Marine Biodiversity Corridor and Cebu Province.

The basis for this tactical approach is due to the nature of why MPAs are established in the Philippines. Many MPAs in the Philippines were, and still are, designed primarily to promote fisheries management and not tourism. In spite of that, these same MPAs allow recreational diving within the protected area, at a specified cost, as a means of revenue generation for sustaining sanctuary management.

However, not all of these MPAs are ready for tourism. Most do not have the capacity to regulate and monitor diving activities and do not have a good awareness and information program to disseminate regulations and policies. They sometimes

lack enforcement support structures such as boundary markers, moorings, and billboard signs showing the regulations and map of the protected area to indicate boundaries. In light of these problems, it is commonly observed that many divers enter MPAs not knowing the difference and not knowing the real value of these MPAs to the local community working so hard to protect it. In addition, diving activities in MPAs continue to increase..

What this project aims to do is to motivate dive institutions involved to help raise awareness about the importance of MPAs and to promote “a diving code of conduct”. There is an aim to develop an attitude through education that teaches divers that these precious coastal resources are not managed to increase diving pleasure, but that communities have invested great amounts of time and effort in establishing and maintaining them for the purposes of food and environmental security for future Filipino generations.

As communities begin to benefit from an improved coastal ecosystem, the dive industry will also benefit from the aesthetics of a well-maintained MPA, as well as bring knowledgeable and informed, and ultimately, responsible divers into MPAs. Hopefully, divers will feel compelled to protect the Philippine environment, and not to be indifferent about it as a result of this project. ■



CCE Foundation and FISH Project booth during the Greenfest activity promoting resource management.

also conducted in the adjacent Department of Health (DOH) conference rooms.

Participating organizations were the Cebu City Government, Barangay Sambag II, Police Regional Office 7, Department of Health, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Department of Agriculture, Ramon Aboitiz Foundation, Inc., University of San Carlos, Energy and Clean Air Project, CCE Foundation, Plant Oil Stove of Leyte State University, Environmental Legal Assistance Center, Crocolandia, Sugarbuzz Productions, Mactan Grill Chain of Restaurants, Foundation of Volunteer Radio Communicators, Community Christian Fellowship, Law of Nature Foundation, Calimasada, and Nghiong Express.

Siquijor Provincial Bantay-Dagat: Protecting Siquijor Waters

Rizaller Amolo

In the course of CCE Foundation's commitment to encouraging coastal resource management (CRM) to become a basic service, it encounters people who are tasked to provide and committed to making CRM services sustainable. These are people who encourage CCEF workers to carry out its mission. It is these people whom we call "local champions."

The Siquijor Provincial *Bantay-Dagat* Task Force was created pursuant to Provincial Office Order No 2007-008. It is composed of 18 members from the Provincial Agriculture Office, PNP-Provincial Command, BFAR-Siquijor and PENRO. The team was created primarily to neutralize illegal fishing activities and other criminal elements within the municipal waters of Siquijor. The team which is led by Mr. Darrell T. Pasco, is made up of municipal government partners, fish wardens, and fishers. Fellow enforcers endearingly refer to him as "Papang."

Darrell and his team's devotion to giving service to others is their personal commitment to the residents of Siquijor Island. The Siquijor Provincial *Bantay-Dagat*, received a special citation during the 2006 Search for Outstanding Fisheries Achievers under the Outstanding *Bantay-Dagat* category. Darrell Pasco also received

a special citation as Outstanding Fish Warden during the same awarding ceremony.

Currently, the Provincial *Bantay-Dagat* and both provincial and municipal Philippine National Police (PNP) members patrol the municipal waters of the six component municipalities making up Siquijor Province. Over, 50 apprehensions have been made since 2005. Their performance has gained the confidence and commitment to support the cause among municipal chief executives, local resource managers and partners, as well as the Governor of Siquijor and provincial legislators.

In carrying out their duties, Darrell and his team have been through both harrowing and inspiring experiences. They have had confrontations, at sea and in the courtroom, with stubborn repeat violators. But these have never hampered their momentum and initiative.

According to them, enforcement is inevitably coupled with high risk situations. The respect and overwhelming support from the provincial government, municipal partners, and other assisting organizations has contributed in fueling their dedication in enforcement of fisheries laws and policies.



Darrell "Papang" Pasco - dedicated leader of the Siquijor Bantay-Dagat Task Force.

Committed persons like "Papang" and the Siquijor *Bantay-Dagat* are vital to the achievement of sustainable resource management in the region as well as other sites. Darrell says that effective coastal law enforcement is essential in assisting fishers in bringing food to their tables.

Overall, CCE Foundation salutes our local champions, the Siquijor *Bantay-Dagat* Taskforce. They truly give meaning to the Foundation's work in environmental conservation. ■

CCE Foundation hosts Pew supported MPA research project

Diana Pietri

In July, Dr. Patrick Christie (University of Washington) and Dr. Richard Pollnac (University of Rhode Island) traveled to Cebu City and the CCEF offices to begin the first round of fieldwork for the Pew MPA Network Project. The goal of the project is to conduct socio-ecological research on nascent marine protected area networks in the Philippines, representing various approaches (purely social vs. socio-ecological, bottom-up vs. top-down, for example) to networking. The networks that the project will analyze are the CCEF Southeast Cebu Cluster Initiative, the Fisheries for Sustainable Harvest (FISH) MPA network in Danajon Bank, and the social networks of Pamana Ka and the MPA Support Network. Though in the coming three years, the project will include both social and ecological research in the various networks, the first two months of field work focused on social surveys of community members involved in the Southeast Cebu and Danajon Bank networks.

This collaborative project between the Pew Fellow and Coastal Conservation and Education Foundation focuses on applied socio-ecological research and education for MPA networks. Dr. Patrick Christie will lead socio-ecological research on emerging marine protected area networks in the Philippines. Dr. Christie will then translate research finding into educational materials for local and international audiences. A management body of a growing MPA network in the Philippines will be strengthened. This network will be monitored for socio-ecological impacts and adaptively managed. In the final year, Dr. Christie and CCEF will be conducting a series of international trainings on MPA network design and implementation with the Nature Conservancy and the Food Agriculture Organization.

After compiling a research team composed of Dr. Ike Oracion (Silliman University) and four

research assistants (Roxie Diaz and Agnes Sabonsolin from CCEF, Malcolm Hiponia, a graduate student from Silliman University, and Diana Pietri, a graduate student from University of Washington), the team headed off for to the first leg of the research in Southeast Cebu and Bohol. Spending a three weeks in Southeast Cebu and four weeks in the Danajon Bank area of Bohol to collect interview data more work still remains to be done. This includes key informant interviews, surveys of practitioners of the Pamana Ka and Marine Support Network, and final reviews and coding of the data. The team's return from Bohol essentially marked the end of the first round of field work for the Pew MPA Network Project. Overall, in spite of some of the aforementioned bumps along the road, the research proceeded as well as one could have hoped and provided a strong start for the Pew MPA Network Project. ■

MPA Feature: Tubod Marine Sanctuary

Roxie Diaz

Tubod Marine Sanctuary, a 7.5 hectare protected area situated in Barangay Tubod in the Municipality of San Juan, Siquijor was legally established in 1989 through the initiative of Central Visayas Regional Project (CVRP). On August 21 2002, the Tubod MPA Management Plan was drafted through a participatory approach.

Strategically located, the MPA is the house reef of Coco Grove Beach Resort and Sea Explorer Diveshop. Integrating the user fee system, the MPA is now generating funds to gradually sustain its operation. For a minimum fee of PhP 50.00 to 100.00, guests can enter the sanctuary for snorkeling and diving. The funds generated are used to fund the fuel of the patrol boat, supplies and equipment of the guard house, and other daily operational needs. Currently, the members of Tubod Fishermen's Association (TUFA) and deputized municipal fish wardens are on a 24-hour rotation schedule in guarding their MPA.

After monitoring Tubod MPA, the area consistently showed increase in all biological parameters. Tubod MPA boasts of its big groupers, schools of jacks and snappers and many other fishes that come in a myriad of colors and



Ethan Lucas

sizes. One of the MPA's most sought after resident is the "Spanish Dancer" (*Hexabranchus sanguineus*) one of the biggest of all nudibranchs (up to 40 cm). It is a sight to behold for divers and a graceful subject for underwater photographers. ■

Staff Profiles

Iolanthe Sara

A warm welcome to our newest CCEF volunteers and interns!

Jason Woo is a PADI Assistant Diving Instructor from New York, USA and will be helping out with Foundation activities and assisting the Training Unit.

Staff re-assignments:

Sheryll Tesch is the IEC Coordinator and the Foundation's new Administrative Officer.

Reggie Sabandal is the new Project Officer of the Private Sectors Mobilization (PRISM) Project. She is formerly the SCHOW of the IPOPCORM Project.

Dalton Presle Dacal, formerly a Community Officer of the Local Governance for Coastal Management Project is now the Foundation's Database and GIS Specialist.

and...

So long and good luck to **Elaine Canares** (LGCMP Assistant Project Coordinator) who is now in Sierra Leone, Africa for the Volunteer Service Overseas (VSO), **Marne Setrina** and **Eva Ongy** (IPOPCORM CHOW), **Anna Blesilda Meneses** (MPA Coordinator), **Arnold Tiro** (CO-Batangas), to our volunteers **Shio Segi**, **Rochae Cameron**, **Jerry Ledesma**, **William Misa** and **Amy Milman** and interns **Nicole Tseng**, **Evanette Mendoza**, **Shangrila Inting**, **Jacob Viniegas**, **Rafael Salvador**, **Stella Marie Flores**, **Christian Gumapon**, **Jovanni Plateros**, **Charity Lungtad** and **Bruce Kenneth Sy**. Thank you for the valuable time and effort that you have put into the Foundation!

The Coastal Conservation and Education Foundation, Inc.

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"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.

Rotary Club Signs MOA with CCEF in 1 Million Mangroves Project

CCEF recently signed a memorandum of agreement with Rotary International District 3860 in late August. The objective of the MOA was to jointly undertake the rehabilitation, development and maintenance of selected mangrove forests within the Province of Cebu which will be a component of the One Million Mangroves Project CCE Foundation. As a civic group, Rotary's pool of members of professionals will surely assist the foundation in its endeavor to encourage the participation of local groups and private organizations in environmental activities.

According to the agreement *Rotary International District 3860* will spearhead the 1 Million Mangrove trees campaign for the business, civic, and the students sectors in the Province of Cebu and enlist the participation of its members and Partners-In-Service for the assistance in rehabilitation, protection and conservation of our environmental and natural resources.

New Publications

Raymundo, L.J., AP Maypa, ED Gomez and P. Cadiz. 2007. **Can dynamite-blasted reefs recover? A novel, low-tech approach to stimulating natural recovery in fish and coral populations.** *Marine Pollution Bulletin*.

Foundation Wishlist

