



COASTAL CONSERVATION AND EDUCATION FOUNDATION, Inc. (formerly Sulu Fund)

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NEWSLETTER
(semi-annual)

With the support of

DAVID AND
LUCILLE PACKARD
FOUNDATION



in collaboration
with:



Sulu Fund Changes Its Name by Ming Ovenden

Sulu Fund? What does this mean? Many people ask that question, and though this may seem like a perfect way to introduce the foundation, our name should embody the identity of the foundation.

After many discussions amongst staff members, it was proposed that a new name be given to Sulu Fund.

We have sent out a circular to all members and board members to vote for the name they believe stands for what we do. A few names were suggested and the final outcome is: The Coastal Conservation and Education Foundation, Inc.

Local Governance for Coastal Management project supported by the Packard Foundation: Continuing on the work of the Coastal Resource Management Project

The CCE Foundation will start implementing the Local Governance for Coastal Management Project of Coral Reefs and Related Habitats Through Local Governance, Community Participation, Training and Information Dissemination Project funded by the Western Pacific Program of the David and Lucille Packard Foundation.

The project seeks to achieve improved management of coastal resources in 150 kilometers of shoreline covering 14 municipalities in the provinces of Cebu and Siquijor in Central Visayas. Its overall goal is to refine and improve existing management tools for the protection of coral reef, sea grass and associated habitats. Using development tools and technologies adopted from CRMP, the project seeks to strengthen further local governance and community participation in CRM.



*Staff orientation
Training and Planning
Workshop for LGCM
Project
Feb. 7-8, 2002*

The Ting Matiao Foundation will help carry out project activities in the island of Siquijor. The CCE Foundation and CRMP (in mid 2002) will provide all technical guidance for field management, developing CRM plans and interventions and monitoring result activities.

Working steadily towards the first marine sanctuary of Tingloy!

by Danny Ocampo

Two years of community organising in Sto. Tomas has finally paid off! Through the hard work of two CCE Foundation Staff members with the support of dedicated volunteers, a new marine sanctuary, the first for Tingloy, Batangas, will soon be declared. Locals call this reef area "Batalang Bato" while divers know it as the "Pulang Buli" reef.

It is about 200m in diameter and is dominated by soft corals. According to the last Earthwatch 2001 survey headed by Dr. Alan White, the reef appears to have improved since 1997 as seen by the increased hard coral cover. However, fish counts were substantially lower indicating heavy fishing pressure on the reef. Hence, it is the right time to start protecting the area to allow fish population to recover.

Organised by CCE Foundation and the local community, the people's organization, Samahan Tungo sa Kaunlaran ng Santo Tomas, Inc. (STKST) was formed in 2000. CCE Foundation assisted the local community in deciding the kind of management they wish to implement in terms of their coastal resources. Open debates were carried out, as there was a division of opinion on opening the proposed sanctuary for tourism.

(cont. next page)

Editorial:

Marine protected areas are not the only solution! But a good start!

by Dr. Alan T. White

The reasons for establishing marine protected areas (MPAs) are sound and we certainly need more, well-managed MPAs in the Philippines. The CCE Foundation has several ongoing projects that address this need through assistance to MPAs that includes:

- Ø Developing and sharing a simple database on all MPAs in the country;
- Ø Initiating a rating system for the level and quality of management in MPAs;
- Ø Assisting with field management in selected MPAs (see next article); and,
- Ø Learning and sharing all the lessons through a network of collaborators.

Collaboration is the key to success in this venture of developing a nationwide database and rating system for MPAs. Presently, more than 10 key Philippine organizations have joined the CCE Foundation in this endeavor and more are welcome. The benefits of this collaboration will be that for the first time, all concerned organizations and individuals will begin to gain a perspective on where we are in terms of progress in MPA establishment and management and what areas are

effectively managed covering what area of habitat and in what form. Now, we really do not have the basic information required to establish benchmarks for our ongoing MPA assistance.

But, why are MPAs not the only solution? Although MPAs can represent the core of coastal management efforts because they are small and relatively controlled and measurable, they are helpless against the numerous pressures outside of MPA boundaries. With increasing fishing and other forms of use and development, MPAs become more like islands of life in a desert! We must think more broadly in terms of coastal resource management that covers wider areas and helps protect our core of MPAs. In the Philippines, the municipal or city unit must become the common denominator for planning, law enforcement, fisheries management etc. so that the areas outside of the smaller MPAs are brought closer to sustainable use levels and impacts. Otherwise, we will be left with increasing deserts of overfished, polluted and overdeveloped marine and coastal areas. MPAs will never be able to counter this trend without expanding our horizons!

(Working steadily...cont.)

Questions were also raised regarding the perimeter of the sanctuary which could possibly encroach on the neighbouring Barangay waters though technically, Barangay water boundaries do not exist according to the fisheries code. Even the LGU seemed confused in differentiating and identifying Barangay waters and Municipal waters.

However, after a general assembly and the participatory boundary delineation and consultation with the adjacent barangay, a resolution was prepared by STKST and was unanimously approved by the Barangay Council. In spite of the adversities encountered, the marine sanctuary in Sto. Tomas is close to reality.

When it was passed on to the Municipal Council for final approval, it became evident that it still needed to pass the same bureaucratic hurdles. After two hearings to satisfy procedures by the Municipal Council (the second of which included STKST, Barangay Officials and CCE Foundation), all is set for the establishment of Tingloy's FIRST marine sanctuary.

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Kudos to the community members of Barangay Santo Tomas who have persevered despite the various delaying factors the community is a shining example for other barangays in their municipality!

Technical Survey of the Coastal Habitats with GPS (Global Positioning System) in CRMP's Expansion Areas in Southern Cebu

by William Villaver

The Coastal Resource Management Project or CRMP is on its homestretch of implementing its mandate on coastal resource management awareness in the province of Cebu. Commencing with Olango group of islands located in the city of Lapu-lapu and in the Municipality of Cordova as its "Learning Area", it has expanded to the southern municipalities – facing Tañon Strait and those facing Bohol Strait, of Cebu island.

CRMP's skilled training staff, with the support from CRM partners conducted trainings on Participatory Coastal Resource Assessment (PCRA), marine sanctuary site selection and coastal resource



management with the LGU staff and local fisherment and fisherfolk in all of these municipalities

The final objective of CRMP was to make the LGU Staff and local fishermen and fisherfolks of each target municipality aware and conversant on coastal resource management in their respective municipality.

Consequently, CRMP through its PCRA Team headed by Ms. Maria Fe "Ping" Portigo deemed it necessary to conduct a technical survey using a GPS to quantify the municipality's coastal habitat namely; mangrove, seagrass and corals' and measure the extent of its coverage to complete the picture on coastal resource management awareness.

GPS points were collated to determine the inner and outer boundaries of the coral habitat with the use of a pumpboat. CRMP and CCE Foundation staff used the GPS handheld units to mark prominent land marks and the Barangay boundaries with the assistance of the local guides and fishermen who are knowledgeable of the area. The mangrove and seagrass areas were done on foot during low tide and in the deeper portions of the seagrass area a paddle boat was used.

The GPS points were then downloaded into the University of the Philippines - Visayas Center for Environment Information System (UPV-CEIS) Cebu College computer for processing. Once processed, it was then submitted to the Cebu Province Provincial Planning and Development Office - Center for Environmental Information System (PPDO-CEIS) office for the final production of maps and determination of total coastal habitat area which is important in monitoring and evaluation.

With the marine sanctuary sites proposed and selected, hand in hand with the PCRA map and

CCE Foundation's Marine Protected Area Project: In full swing for the year 2002

by Anna Meneses

The CCE Foundation is starting field interventions and monitoring to obtain information and feedback on selected Marine Protected Area priority sites from different parts of the Philippines. The MPA priority areas include:

- v Tubbataha Reef National Marine Park in Palawan
- v Mabini-Tingloy Marine Reserve (Twin Rocks, Arthur's Rock and Cathedral Rock) and Sto. Tomas Fish Sanctuary (Pulang-Buli Reef) in Batangas

- v Sumilon Island Fish Sanctuary in Cebu
- v Moalboal Sanctuaries (Saavedra, Pescador Island and Tongo Point) in Cebu
- v Gilutongan Island Fish Sanctuary in Cebu
- v Bohol Marine Triangle (Balicasag Island, Pamilacan Island and Panglao) in Bohol
- v Dauin Sanctuaries (Apo Island, Masaplod Norte, Masaplod Sur, Maayong Tubig and Poblacion) in Negros Oriental

A resource economic valuation study will be conducted on sanctuaries of Moalboal and Sumilon Island in Cebu, Pamilacan Island in Bohol and marine reserves of Dauin in Negros Oriental to quantify coral reef resource uses, values and benefits in the context of MPA implementation.



The CCE Foundation is also encouraging other organizations working on MPA's in the Philippines to join as collaborator on this project. By working together, the results of the MPA rating system and database being developed, can be adopted nationwide. So far, we have ten collaborators:

- Ø Coastal Resource Management Project of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources supported by the United States Agency for International Development
- Ø World Wildlife Foundation (WWF-KKP)
- Ø Foundation for the Philippine Environment
- Ø Conservation International, Philippines
- Ø Provincial-Community Resource Management, Palawan
- Ø Bohol Environment Management Office
- Ø University of the Philippines, Marine Science Institute
- Ø Silliman University, Marine Laboratory
- Ø Silliman University, Angelo King Center for Research and Environmental Management
- Ø Philippine Reef and Rainforest Conservation Foundation, Inc.
- Ø Guiaun Development Foundation, Inc.

Discussions are still ongoing with several more organizations.

The year ahead will be a challenging one. We are expecting to gain better understanding of MPAs as we conduct this study. With our newly acquired knowledge we can hopefully improve the management and conservation of coral reef ecosystems in the Philippines.



SAVING PHILIPPINE REEFS: Coral reef survey on Moalboal, Cebu, Philippines

by *Anna Meneses*

A coral reef monitoring survey on Pescador Island Marine Sanctuary and Saavedra Fish Sanctuary in Moalboal, Cebu was conducted on October 12-13, 2001. The activity was a huge success. The volunteers showed genuine interest in learning the survey methods presented. It is a positive indication of their willingness to protect the coral reefs in Moalboal, one of Visayas' top diving spots.

This activity collected baseline data and trained volunteers (dive masters and dive instructors from Moalboal) to conduct reef surveys. Biophysical data was collected using prescribed methods for scuba and systematic snorkel surveys. Data on living and dead reef substrate cover fish species richness and individual density and other reef quality indicators were noted in order to determine the condition of the coral reef.

Other human activities (such as tourism and fishing activities, etc.) and natural disturbances (bleaching, typhoon, diseases, etc.) were also considered to determine the amount of stress the reef is subjected to. The survey and training thus, produced critical information for management of the reefs and trained 16 divers in standard reef assessment methods.

The result of the coral survey was presented to the "Sanggunian Bayan Meeting" (Municipal Council) on November 19, 2001. In attendance during the presentation were the Municipal Vice-Mayor, Councilors, Dive Operators, Dive Masters/Instructors, members of Fishermen's Association and Barangay Captains. During the presentation, issues and concerns were raised and recommendations were given to improve management of the sanctuaries. A major agreement was that user fees would be initiated to help cover the cost of sanctuary management and also to provide an incentive for displaced fishers in the area.

Take-off of CCE Foundation in Negros Oriental

by *Marchita Polino*

The last quarter of 2001 paved the way for CCE Foundation to establish collaboration in Negros Oriental. One staff member and a VSO student volunteer were assigned in the province to facilitate linkages with potential collaborators and implement MPA related activities.

Collaborators identified in the region are Siliman University Marine Laboratory (SUML), Silliman University Angelo King Center for Research and Environmental Management (SUAKREM), Coastal Resource Management Project (CRMP) and Environment and Natural Resource Division (ENRD) of the Province. These agencies are well known for their long-term interventions in the different MPA sites in the province.

Memorandums of Agreement have been signed with all the agencies except for ENRD. ENRD is a government office which played an important role in the institutionalization of coastal resource management in Negros. CCE Foundation has been working closely with ENRMD and CRMP and the different local government units in conducting MPA management planning workshops and focus group discussions. These were conducted in Guihulngan, Tayasan, Dauin and Bayawan. The purpose of the workshop was to draft a 3-year workplan.

These plans are now being validated by their respective communities and are soon to be endorsed by the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council (FARMC) whom in turn will submit it to the Municipal Council for approval and budget allocation. As Dauin is a priority site of the MPA project, Marcita Polino and Zoe Sheridan are assisting with MPA management in these areas.

NEWS TIDBITS

by *Ming Ovenden*

CCE Foundation is moving!

Our staff has grown to immense proportions. Now in its second year of operations for the MPA project and its first year for the LGCMP project...moving to a larger space to accommodate the new additions seemed like the next logical step...and so the search for the right office space began!

Many spaces were looked at but thanks to Mrs. Heredia, we got an excellent deal at an excellent location. Less than a kilometer away from our present location, the new office will be located at PDI Condominium, Rm. 302, Banilad, Cebu City. So starting Feb 15, CCE Foundation can be found at this address.

We would like to thank Vangie and Alan White for housing our office at their address for so long!

Saving Philippine Reefs: 2002 in Negros and Siquijor Islands

The Coral Reef survey is our next big event. This expedition will be from the 23rd to the 31st of March. Many volunteers are involved in the important task of assessing the present state of our coral reefs.

Due to both natural events and anthropogenic influences our coral reefs are suffering terribly. To be able to keep track of the changes that occur over time, expeditions are carried out to document the status of our corals reefs.

The survey will be centered on the Visayas Region. Specific sites that will be visited are as follows:

- Municipality of Dauin:
- Masaplod Norte, Poblacion District and Apo Island
- Province of Siquijor:

Tubod in the Municipality of San Juan:

- Caticugan and Tulapos.
- City of Dumaguete:
- Cangmating and Agan-an in the Municipality of Sibulan

Results of the Coral Reef Survey will be featured in the next newsletter

Welcome to new CCE Foundation staff!

We welcome Melody Ovenden, Rina Rosales, Zoe Sheridan and Brian Giles.

Melody F. Ovenden completed her BSci in Marine Biology at James Cook University, Australia. She worked as a part time RA for the ICRAN project of ICLARM and full time as the Ecologist and Coastal Resource Manager for a Resort in Lucena City. She has recently completed her MSc in Oceanography at the Southampton Oceanography Centre, Southampton University in England. She is presently working on the MPA database and will assist in implementing the MPA project.

Rina Maria P. Rosales finished her BS in Economics from U.P. Diliman. She then proceeded to complete her MA in Economics at Yale University, New Haven. She has been working in research as an Environmental Natural Resource Economist since 1996 for various foreign funded projects. She will be working on determining the user fees for selected MPA sites for the MPA project.

Brian Giles, a businessman and a PADI IDC instructor from Arizona, U.S.A, has just recently moved to live in the Philippines. He is a very active volunteer who has been helping CCE Foundation on its conservation efforts for the past four years. He intends to use his expertise in training and facilitating marine conservation related activities.

Zoe Sheridan is a VSO trainee volunteer from Southampton, England presently taking her BSci in Marine Geography at Southampton Institute. She is presently assigned to live and work in Masaplod Norte, a Barangay in the municipality of Dauin, Negros Oriental.

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"Promoting leadership for improved coastal resource management"

We're on the web!

<http://www.sulufund.org>

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 states 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.

Board Members

President	Dr. Alan White
Vice President	Mr. Lory Tan
Treasurer/Secretary	Mrs. Evangeline White
Batangas Coordinator	Mr. Albert Salamanca
Palawan Coordinator	Mrs. Angelique Songco
New Board Member	Dr. Patrick Christie
New Board Member	Mrs. Rebecca Pestano Smith

We thank Yasmin Arquiza and Maria Meyers for their excellent support to the Sulu Fund.

CCE Foundation's wish list!

Contribute something to our wish list....

- Office Furniture
- Over-head projector
- Camera
- Hot Pot
- Electric typewriter
- Dive gear (BCD, regulator, wet suit, etc)
- Hand-held radio (2-way)



Coastal Conservation and Education Foundation Books and Products

BOOKS

1. **Philippine Coral Reefs, A Natural History Guide** (2001). Alan White, 276 pages, soft-cover: Pesos 1,950 / \$US 39. A natural history guide directed at the general public. Acquaints readers with new organisms and presents a glimpse of a fascinating underwater world. Contains 623 colored photos.
2. **Beneath Philippine Seas** (1997). Robert Yin, 135 pages, hardbound: Pesos 1800 / \$US 36; soft cover: 1300 pesos / \$US 26. A wonderful assortment of large underwater photos on each page by one of the most dedicated Filipino photographers residing in San Diego, CA.
3. **Philippines Coral Reefs in Watercolor** (1997). Rafael Cusi (artist), Bortles, L., White, A.T., and Cassey, C. (text), 128 pages, hardbound: Pesos 1,800 / \$US 36. A stunning collection of watercolor paintings depicting Philippine coral reefs at their best in an extremely pleasing style. This unique book is enhanced by text which describes both the plight of coral reefs and the activities underway in the Philippines to conserve and manage this valuable resource.
4. **Field Guide to the Common Mangroves, Seagrasses and Algae of the Philippines** (1997). Hilconida Calumpang and Ernani Menez, 197 pages, soft-cover: Pesos 500 / \$US 10. This is the first comprehensive and authoritative book on the common marine plants of Philippine shores and reefs. It facilitates identification to the species level with good, clear photographs.
5. **A Field Guide to Whales and Dolphins in the Philippines** (1997). Jose Ma. Lorenzo P. Tan, 50 pages, soft-cover: Pesos 395 / \$US 8. The first guide book on whale watching in the Philippines. It reveals the diversity of cetaceans in the Philippines and has many good photos with an attractive layout.
6. **Tales from Tubbataha: Natural History, Resource Use, and Conservation of the Tubbataha Reefs Palawan, Philippines** (2000). Yasmin Arquiza and Alan White, 136 pages, soft-cover: Pesos 595 / \$US 12. This is the only book which summarizes the status of Tubbataha Reef National Marine Park in a comprehensive and readable manner. It tracks the changes in the coral reef environment from impacts of people and in relation to political forces.
7. **Philippine Red Data Book** (1997). Wildlife Conservation Soc. of the Phil., soft-cover: Pesos 410 / \$US 8. Endangered and threatened species of the Philippines.
8. **Philippine Biodiversity** An assessment and action plan (1997). Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), Pesos 1,500 / \$US 30.
9. **Atlas of the Seaweed** (1997). Gavino Trono, Jr., Pesos 885 / \$US 18.
10. **Anilao 2000** by Eduardo CuUnjieng, hardbound Pesos 3,700 / \$US 74.

OTHER PRODUCTS:

15. **Save Philippine Reefs T-Shirt**. Design with reef fish on front, Small, Medium or Large, Pesos 300 / \$US 6.
16. VHS Tape of "**Philippine Coral Reefs-Resource at Risk**". Pesos 500 / \$US 10.
17. VHS Tape of "**Quiet Places**". Pesos 500 / \$US 15 goes with "Ecotourism in the Philippines" Book. Pesos 140 / \$US 3.
18. **Post cards** (various underwater designs) photo by R. Yin 12 pcs per pack for Pesos 100 / \$US 2.
19. Map of Philippine Culture and Ecosystems. Pesos 150 / \$US 3.
20. Map, Decline of the Philippine Forest. Pesos 125 / \$US 3.

ORDERING AND PAYMENT:

Please send orders to CCE Foundation in Cebu and enclose payment by **check** payable to CCE Foundation in Pesos or \$US. For mailing within the Philippines, please add Pesos 100 / \$US 3. For airmail outside of the Philippines please add Pesos 1300 or \$US 26 to your order. Via Federal Express or DHL, please add \$US 42.

Note: Prices in US \$ are subject to change without prior notice.

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