Solutions for Sustainable Seas
SDG 14: Life Below Water

Scaling Up the Protection and Conservation of Marine and Coastal Ecosystems and Resources through Marine Protected Area Management in Guimaras, Philippines

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Guimaras at a Glance

- **Location**: Western Visayas Region
- **Land Area**: 604.57 sq. km
- **Length of coastline**: 409.2 km
- **Population**: 174,613 (2015)
- **Municipalities**: 5
- **Number of Coastal Barangays**: 54
- **Major Economic Activities**:
  - Farming (Agriculture)
  - Fishing
  - Tourism
  - Local and foreign employment
- **ICM program initiated in 2008 focusing on the application of integrated management solutions in an island ecosystem**
Integrated Coastal Management Program

Scaling-up of ICM

MOA Signing of the Provincial Government of Guimaras, Department of Environment and Natural Resources-Provincial ENR Office and PEMSEA on May 22, 2015

Operation of ICM-PCC Sub-Committee
Environmental Issues

- Coastal erosion
- Deterioration of water quality in rivers and coastal areas
- Foreshore management (multiple use conflicts)
- Vulnerability of southern part of Guimaras to tsunami
- Vulnerability to oil spill
- Degradation of coastal and marine ecosystems and resources
Solutions

• Establishment of marine protected areas (MPAs)
• Effective management of MPAs
  • Establishment of MPA Management Boards
  • Development and adoption of MPA management plans
  • Demarcating the boundaries of the protected area with marker buoys
  • Strengthening law enforcement (e.g., maintenance of patrol boats and training of personnel)
• Establishment of MPA management facilities
• Implementation of MPA management plans
• Regular conduct of habitat and fisheries assessment and monitoring
Baseline

Four declared Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) located in Jordan, Nueva Valencia and San Lorenzo

- Taklong Island National Marine Reserve
  - Presidential Proclamation No. 525, 1990
  - Managed by Protected Area Management Board

- Toyo Reef Marine Sanctuary
  - Ordinance No. 03, 1994

- Jordan Marine Turtle Sanctuary
  - Municipal Ordinance No. 97-006, 1997

- Tumalintinan Point Fish Sanctuary
  - Ordinance No. 99-005, 1999

Area covered by the 4 MPAs: 1830.94 hectares
Current status

1. Avila Marine Sanctuary
2. Tumalintinan Point MPA
3. Pamanculan Fish Sanctuary
4. San Antonio Bay MPA
5. Toyo Reef Fish Sanctuary
6. TINMR
7. Tan-Luc MPA
8. Brgy. Dolores Marine and Fish Haven
9. Igang Bay Marine Sanctuary
10. Jordan Municipal Marine Reserve and Sanctuary
11. Balcon MPA
12. Brgy. Sinapsapan MPA

- Area covered by the 12 MPAs: 2,672 hectares
- Increase of 781 hectares
MPA Management Support

- Jordan Municipal Marine Reserve Management Plan
- Tan-Luc Marine Protected Area Management Plan
- MPA Management Plan Formulation and Updating
- Infrastructure Support
- Capacity Development
- Tan-Luc Coral Garden
- Habitat Rehabilitation
- Habitat Assessments
- Advocacy
Results

• Strengthened Public Private Partnerships: Establishment of Guimaras Alliance of Protected Areas and Sanctuaries (GAPAS)

• Increased awareness and active participation of the community in MPA management

• Management effectiveness (METT and MEAT ratings) increased

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the MPA</th>
<th>MEATT Score</th>
<th>MEAT Score</th>
<th>Level attained</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IBIMS</td>
<td>62 (2016: GIZ)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Management is 62% effective</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pamanidan Fish Sanctuary</td>
<td>56.52 (2017: DENR)</td>
<td>Established transitioning to Strengthened</td>
<td>Very Good</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tumalintinan Point MPA</td>
<td>61.33 (2017: DENR)</td>
<td>Strengthened transitioning to Sustained</td>
<td>Very Good</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tinimt</td>
<td>79.5 (2016: GIZ)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>The increase was observed across all the elements of the evaluation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avila Marine Sanctuary</td>
<td>28.6 (2015: Hasesig)</td>
<td>0-Initiated</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balcon MPA</td>
<td>28.6 (2015: Hasesig)</td>
<td>0-Initiated</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tan-Loc MPA</td>
<td>38.3 (2015: Hasesig)</td>
<td>1-Established</td>
<td>Good Very Good</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barangay Dolores Marine and Fish Haven</td>
<td>50 (2017: DENR)</td>
<td>0-Initiated</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Results

Increased coral cover inside the core zone of the MPA

Increased fish density inside the core zone of the MPA
Results

Increased areal extent of protected critical habitat
Results

TINMR PAMB members receiving the award for Para El Mar

Hon. Galila, Municipal Mayor of Nueva Valencia receiving the award for the 2017 Most Outstanding Coastal Community Regional Level

Governor Gumarin with the Provincial Government staff receiving the 2017 Excell Awards Regional Level
Expected Impact Areas

- Fisheries
- Food Security
- Tourism
- Employment
- Coastal and Marine Ecosystem
- Climate Change
Way forward

1. Development of MPAs for ecotourism as part of the ecotourism circuit
2. Establishment of additional MPAs to increase areal extent of habitats under protected status (PNLG SAP target of 2,672 ha. protected by 2021 achieved; PPFP target of 6,198.78 ha. protected by 2035)
3. Sustainable livelihood for displaced fisherfolks within MPA sites
4. Establishment of inter-LGU alliances to facilitate MPA networking
5. Consolidation and encoding of monitoring data into the Integrated Information Management System to support the State of the Coasts reporting
THANK YOU

Taklong Island National Marine Reserve (TINMR)

Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts.

Winston Churchill