

PALAWAN COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Accomplishment Report

CY 2011

A. Highlights of Accomplishment

The Palawan Council for Sustainable Development Staff (PCSDS) accomplished 96.8 percent of its target for CY 2011.

Researches and studies were conducted to assist the Council in the formulation of policies and in the implementations of SEP (RA7611) and ECAN. Researches were conducted on the harvest of edible birds nest in Taytay and El Nido as input to formulation of policy on sustainable harvest of edible birds nest in the province. A study on bat population in Honda Bay focusing on species identification and habitat assessment was also undertaken. Also, studies were conducted on caves designated for tourism and on resource rent for pearl farms in the Calamianes region. Moreover, guidelines on the registration, acquisition, and use of chainsaws were reviewed to assess penalties for violation and strengthen monitoring. Guidelines for ECAN zone management planning was formulated to guide the LGUs in resource and zone planning using the ECAN strategy.

The operation of Environmental Monitoring and Evaluation System (EMES) establishes indicators of success for the implementation of SEP and ECAN. It conducts monitoring and evaluation of the status of resources in Palawan. Along this line, coastal resource monitoring were conducted in the municipalities of Española and Rizal. Resources in agriculture, forestry, soils and water were also monitored using the aid of the geographic information system (GIS). Twenty-six (26) major rivers were also monitored on changes in water quality thus, 372 water quality analyses were performed on these river systems, including other water bodies and in response to the needs of private entities. There were 4 rain gauges installed during the year to measure precipitation level in areas with micro-climates not supported by PAGASA. The monitoring and evaluation results are presented in technical forum for review and are contained in an EMES report displaying the status and condition of Palawan's environment at the end of each implementation year.

Moreover, the ECAN zoning system requires that ECAN zones must be supported with management plans. These in subsequence, are being used to pilot test the SEP implementation using the ECAN strategy at the community (or barangay) level in the form of ECAN learning sites. There were also 5 ECAN zoning maps revised to assist the 24 LGUs in the revision and harmonization of their comprehensive land and water use plans (CLWUP) with ECAN and SEP.

On advocacy, technical assistance and support services rendered, there were 5 communities reached thru IEC and advocacy on formulated policies and guidelines of the Council while environmental briefings and presentations were also done in various groups. To support the IEC and advocacy drive, there were 5000 information materials produced, 96 press releases and 50 hours of radio programs aired during the year.

Community and staff trainings were also conducted specifically on the topics of climate change adaptation and mitigation, water conservation, SEP and ECAN implementation.

Ninety-seven (97) protected areas and marine protected areas were inventoried for this purpose and for further capacity building activities during the year.

On the implementation of special laws, the PCSDS has postured as CITES management authority in Palawan. As such, there were 56 wildlife enforcement officers trained and meetings with DENR and other entities were conducted in relation to the implementation of the Wildlife Act. Monitoring reports were also submitted on the status of confiscated wildlife turned over by PCSDS to the Palawan Wildlife Rescue and Conservation Centre (PWRCC) being managed by the DENR. In relation, there were 108 wildlife farm and local transport permits issued during the year while the wildlife management fund for Palawan has also been established, its proceeds accrue to the National Treasury. On the implementation of Caves Act, 6 sites were inspected and 64 caves were identified and profiled. A cave

distribution map was likewise produced. On the other hand, there were 142 chainsaws inventoried and monitored in relation to the implementation of Chainsaw Act.

Furthermore, there were 127 SEP clearances issued to project proponents and 97 accreditation/permits issued to operate live fish trade, in relation to the SEP Clearance system being implemented in Palawan. Meanwhile, 532 existing projects were also monitored for compliance based on the terms and conditions issued to them. The Staff likewise participates in monitoring of projects as active member of the DENR led MMTs in the province.

In the operation of the PCSD Adjudication Board, there were 58 cases filed for violation of PCSD Administrative Orders, 80 cases previously logged were heard and 99 cases were resolved.