



## PALAWAN COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

### Accomplishment Report

January to December 2012

#### A. Highlights of Accomplishment



The Palawan Council for Sustainable Development Staff (PCSDS) accomplished a weighted average of 106.20 percent of its target for the year 2012. Researches and studies are intended to assist the Council in the formulation of policies in the implementations of SEP (RA7611) and ECAN. Four researches/studies were targeted for the year however, there were 8 accomplished in response to local demands in aid of policy formulation. Studies undertaken for the year are the following:

- carrying capacity of Bat Island in Honda Bay as a major tourism destination in Puerto Princesa City;
  - assessment of management effectiveness of existing Protected Areas in Palawan;
  - Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment for Barangays Rizal and Caramay, Roxas, Palawan;
- policy research on Guano Utilisation in Palawan to support policy on cave resources utilisation;
  - policy analysis on the implication of EO 23 (moratorium on the cutting and harvesting of timber in the natural and residual forest) in Palawan specifically, on the Communal Forestry Policy of the PCSD being implemented in the province;
  - policy analysis of the impact of the implementation of EO 79 (institutionalisation and implementation of reforms in the mining sector and the utilisation of mineral resources to protect the environment);
  - assessment and mapping of Tinagusan Bat Cave, Batas Island, Taytay, Palawan;
  - Assessment and mapping of Sabang-Samalague Cave, Batas Island, Taytay, Palawan.

On policy formulation, only 5 policies were formulated out of the 6 targeted for the year. Policies and guidelines formulated are the following:

- policy guidelines on sustainable harvest of edible birds nest in Palawan;
- policy guidelines in the establishment of wildlife rescue and rehabilitation centres in Palawan;
- policy guidelines for the delineation of critical habitats of endangered species;
- policy on sustainable guano gathering in Palawan;
- policy on water use and disposal in Pearl Farms.

Moreover, the preparation of ECAN zones resources management plan was completed in the municipalities of Roxas and Quezon. The process and content of this plan shall be validated and tested for the utilisation of the local government units as basis in crafting the sustainable comprehensive land and water use plans and their annual development plans.

The PCSD also maintained SEP related data bases and information systems to support policy and planning, decision making and the delivery of environmental services. The audio-visual library is being maintained to support information dissemination, education and extension. On the other hand, the environmental laboratory is also being maintained to support environmental resources monitoring, policy and planning. The geographic information system supports ECAN mapping of municipalities, assists in the implementation of Caves Act in mapping of surveyed and identified caves in Palawan and in the production of geo-hazard maps at the barangay level.



The management information system operates for pro-active decision making, activity monitoring and planning. The PCSD also maintains its environmental library and database, the PCSD website and the Palawan Sustainable Development Training Institute.

On advocacy, technical assistance and rendering of support services, there were 12 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 4,980 information materials produced, and 66 hours of radio programs aired during the year.

Community and staff trainings were also conducted specifically on the topics of climate change adaptation, forest protection and SEP and ECAN implementation. The PalTREES program is considered a decisive move to increase the forest cover of Palawan to make the environment resilient to the impacts of climate change that threatens the environment, the economy and the political and social structure of the province. For the year, 671.5 hectares of forestlands were planted with indigenous forest trees species in combination with fruit trees. The PCSD drive to enhance ecological functions, led to the delineation of a marine protected area (fish sanctuary) in Roxas, Palawan. Consequently, there were five (5) LGUs assisted in the review and revision of ECAN zone map for harmonising the LGU plans (CLUP) with ECAN.

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, monitoring of water quality, river systems and coastal resources were conducted during the year to assess the stability of the resource and the ecosystem.



enforcement of the Wildlife Act in Palawan.



The monitoring and evaluation results are contained in an EMES report displaying the status and condition of Palawan's environment at the end of each implementation year. Moreover, there were 3 rain gauges installed during the year for the continued monitoring of micro-climates in Palawan that are not covered by PAG-ASA.

The establishment of Green Benefit Monitoring and Evaluation System (GBMES) has been started. The purpose for establishing the system is to monitor the benefits gained from environmental investments and to assess current actions in line with SEP. On the other hand, the Palawan Economic and Environment Natural Resources Accounting System (PEENRAS) is also being re-established and strengthened to account and factor-in environmental capitals into the provincial GDP. The system should forerun the establishment of Provincial Green GDP.

On the implementation of special laws, the PCSDS has postured as CITES management authority in Palawan. As such, there were 150 wildlife enforcement officers trained under CITES. 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 107 wildlife farm and local transport permits issued, out of the target of 50 permits during the year, 551 wildlife tagged for tracking and monitoring and 2 wildlife traffic monitoring units (WTMU) established for

Meanwhile, the management of the wildlife fund for Palawan continue to accrue to the National Treasury. Two (2) sites were inspected and inventoried and 5 permits were issued for the utilisation of cave resources. This is in relation to the implementation of the Caves Act in Palawan. There were also 105 chainsaws inventoried and monitored in relation to the implementation of Chainsaw Act.

Furthermore, there were 277 SEP clearances issued to project proponents and 180 accreditation/permits issued to operate live fish trade, in relation to the implementation of the SEP Clearance System. Subsequently, 84 existing projects were also monitored for compliance based on the terms and conditions issued to them.

In the operation of the PCSD Adjudication Board, there were 155 cases filed for violation of PCSD Administrative Orders, 65 cases previously logged were heard, and 87 cases were resolved.

## B. Implementation Slippage



The negative slippage incurred for the year is highest in MFO 1 (-1.80%) which is basically affected by a performance lag in the formulation of municipal cave and cave resources management plans and on the failure to undertake the following: the planned assessment of the impact of the integration of SEP principles in DepED curriculum as part of environmental program of PCSD; the establishment of policy review board; and the review of the implementation of one PCSD major policy in the province. Moreover, a negative slippage of 1.04% was also incurred under MFO 2 in the management of 2 river systems as part of the enhancement and maintenance of the ecosystem.

MFO 3 registered a positive slippage of 4.20%. The organisation bestowed strength in the operation of SEP Clearance System, in the enforcement of special laws, in the operation of the PCSD Adjudication Board and in the conduct of researches and studies to assist policy formulation.

The PCSD registered an overall positive slippage of 6.30% outweighing the negative slippage incurred.

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