



ACTING WITNESS in KABASINGAN
Engaging fishermen communities to protect marine biodiversity
in the Verde Island Passage

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

"Philippines is home of the most diverse biological water on Earth" wrote the [California Academy of Sciences](#), whose's expedition zeroed in the Verde Island Passage to discover over 100 new species in 2015 alone, from "living fossil" urchins to multicoloured nudibranchs known to synthesize potential precious new biomedical compounds. Sadly the archipelago of the Philippines is also among the fastest degrading marine environments on the planet. Once again human communities, on both side of this passage located just south of Metro Manila, have to resort to highly unsustainable practices to feed their family and barely earn a living. Fishermen and farmers are considered the poorest and least educated segment of the population in the country.

In the Verde Island Passage, one of the most disruptive practice as well as one of the most lucrative for local fishermen is called the *dulong* fishing. *Dulong* is the commonly used designation that cover the fry of different species from post-larval to juvenile, essentially sardines and anchovies but also any other living things large enough to not escape the very fine-meshed nets used. Though the regulation imposes a minimum of 3 cm mesh size, the ones utilized by the fishermen, more often, resemble mosquito nets. The over-fishing of immature sardines and anchovies has a heavy impact on these two populations of fish and maybe even more on the other larger species feeding on them. Practiced at night, with "super" lights to attract the fishes, along the coasts as well as above the coral reefs, this practice is a massive disruptor of the entire underwater ecology. A study, led by USAID and Conservation International, in 2011 estimated the catches, for only 20 small wooden fishing boats, to a staggering 60 metric tones over one year, generating about \$100.000 USD of annual revenues. Hundreds of such boats are in operation in the Verde Island Passage. The money is going essentially to middle men brokers who would collect up to 80% of the revenues. Still for the fisherman this type of fishing can be 5 times more profitable than the usual catches.

This project proposes to engage and organize local stakeholders, to bring them to cooperate with local and international expertises and resources in order to tackle the issue within a defined pilot location to establish and validate sustainable and scalable solutions. We will develop a strong, state of the art communication campaign aimed in priority at local and national audiences. This campaign will be led by seasoned international professionals in complete collaboration with the local communities who will take a predominant role in the elaboration of its contents.

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The first year

Studying the situation – Local community outreach - Hinting at solutions

- The problem is complex and encompasses environmental, cultural, political and economical factors. Strong support and acceptance from the local communities are essential from the prior researches and studies until the elaboration and implementation of the solutions. This will require a deep understanding of local life and practices.
- Raising the community awareness to embrace stewardship responsibility is our primary goal. For that we will start by embedding locally a documentary film production for 12 months. Supported by a small team of experts and scientists it will document the everyday life of a fishermen village. Members of the community will be progressively encouraged to take an active part in elaborating the narrative of film. Then regular screenings of edited sequences will be organized in the village. This approach is elaborated from the technique developed by Augusto Boal in the 70's around theatre workshop and known as the "Forum Theatre". The technique allows stakeholders to take proactive roles in identifying community's problems and then elaborate their own solutions. Experts of this technique and anthropologists will accompany the production team from the early stage, later marine biologists will complete the field team.
- It usually takes years for scientific research to have an impact on the population. Our approach could greatly accelerate the process. The marine biologist team will regularly follow the operation, identify the catches and assess underwater habitats and environment. They will be assisted by local fishermen whose knowledge will be valued and put to contribution. A mutual educational process will be put in place, discussed and documented. Environmental and economical assessment will be conducted in concert and knowledge from both sides will be put into action. Solutions such as fish stock management of high commercial valued species (for aquarium market for instance) identification might start to emerge.

The second year

Designing strategies – implementing solution – Local media communication

- By the beginning of year two, a clear identification of the core issues, their long term consequences, social, environmental, economical, and their chain of causalities should be firmly established for all stakeholders. Within the film's narrative the essential protagonists will have emerged and an open debate within the local community will be ready to take place.
- Screening of significant sequences and debates will be organized, firstly within the community then with representatives of the local government and other authorities such as universities or technical experts. Organization of a local committee will take place to validate and forward decisions and course of actions.
- National and international technical expertise will be invited to evaluate and advise on potential solutions selected by the community that will then be backed up by science.
- Underwater shooting, aerial footages and images of other area in the Philippines will allow the local stakeholders to have a different perception of their own environment from angles and perspectives different than their usual views.
- Solutions will be implemented, tested and validated on the field.

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The third year

National and International media communication – Verde Island Passage fishermen communities outreach
– Engaging Central government and agencies – Scaling up of the solutions

- The documentary film will be segmented in different episodes and proposed for broadcasting on regional or national public TV channels.
- In parallel to the national/regional media broadcasting, on the ground outreach campaign will bring awareness and offer solutions to other communities in the Verde Island passage, through public screening followed by debates in fishermen villages, posters and booklets including DVD's and eventually a marine environment board game will be design and distributed to villages and schools to consolidate education of ecological and conservation principles from an early age.
- A 60 to 90 minute film will be produced for the international audience with the existing footage augmented with internationally renown marine scientists and policy makers interviews. This documentary will relate the entire process of raising awareness from within the community, the cooperation and interaction of outside organisations, to the end result. It will tell and analyse the success or failure of this community enterprise.
- A first evaluation of the implemented solutions will be conducted and discussed within the community.

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STATEMENT OF NEEDS

Environmental need: The oceans are the largest carbon sinks on Earth, even before forests and soil building. However, to preserve this crucial regulating function they must remain biologically functional. The essential and most diversified part of all biological activities is happening by and large in transitional zones, which means, concerning the oceans, along all coastal areas, among coral reefs, mangroves, river's deltas and the like. Which are places that human communities have also identified as the most productive biotopes. Currently these coastal areas are often occupied by fringes of population that have been left out of the globalized modern economy. More than 75% of the population in the Philippines actually still live on less than 3.5 Euros per day and furthermore, sea products represent 70% of proteins consumed in the archipelago. Consequently sensitive coastal marine ecosystems are under tremendous pressure. A desperate search for food resources by the most destitute part of the population is greatly aggravated by an industrial over-exploitation of pelagic fish stocks that feeds exporting markets. The Verde island passage is most probably one of the major reproduction grounds and nutriment sources for all the biological system of the region as well as a reservoir of yet to be discovered biodiversity treasure troves. Its resilience is now dwindling and an urgent action is needed.

Social and Economical needs: We understand nowadays that Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) function best, if not only, with the proactive involvement of the local communities. Their natural knowledge and understanding of the local environment, where most of them were born and raised, are generally far more extensive and accurate than passing-by scholars. They are in fact often acutely aware of the deteriorating situation. Unfortunately this knowledge is most of the time disregarded and dismissed when it could be the very first valuable resource. Moreover, on the long term, these local populations have the strongest vested interest in protecting what is in fact their source of food and revenues. But for them to act accordingly they first and foremost need to alleviate the stress of pressing daily needs and find alternative economical incentive before accessing a broader understanding of environmental, social and economical dynamics that could let to better practices. This anthropic pressure will not vanish any time soon and any serious remediation must be prompted and elaborated from within these communities to become genuinely actionable and sustainable on the long term. MPAs are generally managed by local governments who lack capital resource, expertise and market connections. This project intend to build a communication strategy that will enable them to reach out effectively.

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PROJECT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The anthropic pressure is not only damaging the local ecology, it also gravely jeopardizes the global conditions of human well being in the long run. Human specific practices are the problem. "The Problems being the solutions", we intend to adapt and modify practice toward non destructive ones.

The ultimate goal of this project is to transform the destructive patterns fostered by specific the dulong fishing communities into beneficial behaviours for all, humans and non-humans.

To do so we determines 6 essential objectives:

1. Engage a pilot community to long term cooperation
2. Help them determine desirable remediation practices
3. Develop locally new qualification and skills
4. Develop local, national and international support network
5. Scale up the model to other communities.
6. Document the entire process for future reference

These objectives will bring, in a non-antagonistic way, this community to identify and acknowledge the damages due to their practices in their particular context, then to rely on their own qualities and best abilities to start figuring out ways towards adapted and sustainable remediation. The deliberate introduction of a film production in the community is intended to induce and catalyse a process of auto-assessment. The regular screening of the progress of the documentation aims at making concrete the perception of significant issues, raise questions and prompt dialogues among the stakeholders. Eventually, it is expected to put in motion desires for mechanics of effective and sustainable resolutions. It has been proven that practical answers emerging from the communities themselves, rather than being brought up by outsiders, most often foreigners, have much better chances to be well adapted, applied and sustained in the long run. These solutions should be build up from skills, knowledge and best practices already existing within the community. A sufficient time of observation, understanding and sharing must be allowed to trigger these initiatives. The pace of documentary film making is here very well adapted. It is only when the process is "owned" by the local population that external expertises will be introduced to widen the perspective, strengthen the methods and deliver technical and material supports.

Yet, in order to get the most efficient response from the community, it is important that the diagnoses and solutions should not be pre-empted by any outsiders, including the film producers.

It is therefore at this point difficult to be definitive concerning the future of this approach and a broad range of results might take place within two extremes outcomes:

Best case scenario

Films are today a universal medium, that transcends cultures, social divides and education gaps. Somehow, as spectators, we all read animated images in shared ways and, for all of us, films have always a common dramaturgy that leads their narrative line toward what professional scriptwriters call "the conflicts resolution". This "natural" curve of action inclines the audience towards the desire of problem's resolution and

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even sometimes inspire compassion. Putting each stakeholder, through our documenting process, alternating their positions from protagonist to audience should provide an impetus towards the responsibility to take action. Cooperative interactions and group creativity can here be extremely powerful and allow solutions to emerge that surpass the abilities of any individual or even the sum of these individuals.

So far, the best desirable end for this documentary film series would be that the community becomes a proactively responsible steward of their coastal ecology, finding a broad range of alternative means to provide for their family that would enhance the biodiversity rather than depleting it. Doing so they would set up standards and techniques that could be replicated and scaled up to all similar dulong fishing communities around the Verde Island Passage, and their story could become exemplary. The film's broadcasting will support and propagate the success nation wide, boost the pride of these usually discarded communities and stimulate useful vocations, from barefoot ecologists to community organizers and social film makers.

Worst case scenario

Technical solutions are usually very simple but conflicting interests might outnumber positive interactions. Group or individual conflicts are the first, worse and most common impediments to resolutions at any scale. Therefore the close observation, understanding and recording of the multiples intricate reasons that may lead to failures will provide a valuable document to be studied by future social development projects with this or maybe any population. The issue is certainly complex and "failure" is often a necessary way to long lasting success. The film could then raise questions at national and international levels through a long feature documentary.

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PROJECT METHODS, ACTIVITIES AND TIME TABLE

YEAR ONE : COMMUNITY SELF-AWARENESS

Outreach the local community of Kabasingan

Build a permanent base in the village of the Kabasingan (Base building)

Embed the team within the life of the village (Development)

Start filming everyday life with a minimal "outsider's" team (Production)

Train local film technicians

Select & Edit significant sequences (Pre-post production)

Engage a reflection process (Community Outreach & Training)

Organize regular screening & discussions facilitated by an expert of Boal's method

Train local facilitators

Develop a community dialogue on environmental and economical dynamics

Identification of major issues and their dynamics

Promote the emergence of potential solutions

Keep documenting the process

YEAR TWO : COMMUNITY AUTO-STRUCTURATION

Facilitate the organization of the community to take action

Structure a proactive local group to validate decisions and further actions

Invite outside experts to open new perspectives

Organize a mutual exchange of knowledge and education

Train local barefoot ecologists

Audio visual workshop

Augusto Boal's method training

Permaculture initiation and workshop

Design environmental, social and economical solutions

Bring local communities to be stewards of their natural resources

Documenting the process

YEAR THREE : COMMUNITY OPENING & OUT-REACHING

Outreach national and international to support and implement the solutions

Train members of the community to Augusto Boal's techniques

Train community member of audiovisual skills and techniques

Scaling up of the process and solutions

Deploying barefoot ecologists and activists to support other communities

International broadcasting and screening of the entire process.

Reaching out local community

Building trust in the process is crucial. We will rely on two techniques to approach and discern the issues. One is an adaptation to documentary of the Forum Theatre technique developed by Augusto Boal; the other is the Permaculture design approach developed by Bill Mollison and David Holmgren in the 70s.

Base building. To start engaging the population we will build with the local techniques, materials and skill a base camp that could also be used as a community space to gather and debate. This base will be given to the village at the end of the process, so it will be built on common land with the approval of the Captain Barangay. The film crew will physically participate to the building process which should allow camaraderie relationships to take roots.

Documentary Forum. A series of short films of 13 minutes will be produce all along the project. These short segments will be eventually shot and edited with the local

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young volunteers who are interested to participate in the process, and where they will learn the technical skills of film making. Each episode will "dramatise" a specific issue raised by the community, and these first segments will not offer any solutions. They will be screened at regular dates to the village and each screening will be followed by discussions and debates. Hopefully when solutions will emerge they will be documented then also screened to stakeholders and eventually broadcast through national TV to reach other fishing communities.

Permaculture. The reflection and elaboration of solutions will be essentially conducted by the village population but on a Permaculture canvas. Permaculture is a design process that gathers a set of practical principles that have been proven extremely efficient when it comes to long term sustainable human settlements. It includes interview of the "clients", listing of needs, listing of resources (often overlooked ones) and identification of problematic limitations. It is a precise and powerful community intelligence process that requires to be facilitated. This will give the opportunity to give an initiation to Permaculture Design principles and techniques.

Reaching out for expertises

Once the process engaged and the mutual trust consolidated, outside expertise will be invited to get involved, to support, monitor and enhance the selected solutions.

Specialists of the Forum Theatre will join the team from the screening of the first episode to facilitate the debate. They will train local volunteers to the technique to eventually be replaced in their facilitator role.

Scientific and technical expertises will be required for efficiency of the solutions as well as for the validation of the model to be scaled up. Their monitoring might be needed on land and at sea from marine ecology, agronomy, botanic, anthropology, water management to market distribution. National and international institutions, such as SEARCA, UPLB or the University of Montpellier, are already aware of the project and ready to answer the call. This expertise will give an international perspective to the film narrative in its final version and give an idea of what is eventually at stake globally.

Reaching out for global awareness

Communication and educational tools. The entire process will be documented and the teachings that will come from it will be shared and broadcast. Local's and expert's knowledge will fuel the content of the short documentary series and the long feature documentary. National and regional TV channels will be broadcasting the series on several weeks. Printed material support will also be designed and distributed in school and villages.

A Verde Island Passage outreach campaign will follow the project.

- The film will be screened in other fishing villages
- Presentation and debate will be organised.
- Posters & booklet with DVD's will be distributed detailing the best practices
- Game board about marine biology will be given to school children.

International outreach a 60 to 90 minutes documentary film will be produced that will relate the entire experience of this specific approach and operational mode. It will be sent to festivals, international distributors and international broadcasters. The Acting Witness Project is an innovative way to engage film makers in a more implicated and active posture than just witnessing the worrying state of the world. This new posture might certainly be of some interest to film festivals.

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PRELIMINARY TIME TABLE

Year One

- Month 1. Community approach and administrative authorisations
- Month 2. Design and Building of the Project Base
- Month 3. Research Content by Art&Facts Films & Anthropologist
- Month 4. Field production and post-production of episode 01 by Art&Facts Films .
- Month 5. Screening of episode one in the village to engage the dialogue.
Community outreach to script the content of episode 02.
- Month 6. Field production and post-production of episode two. Training of volunteers to film production, image and sound techniques by Art&Facts Films.
- Month 7. Screening of episode 02 in the village followed by a debate facilitated by a specialist that will help to outline the majors concerning issues for the community.
The most important issue will be used to script the content of episode 03.
- Month 8. Field production and post-production of episode 03 with the active participation of former trainees. Training of volunteers on script writing and narrative editing.
- Month 9. Screening of episode 03 followed by a debate facilitated by a specialist assisted by a local volunteer. This debate will be oriented toward finding local solutions to the issues underline in episode t03. From the beginning all the debates will be filmed and will be use as support to train local facilitators.
- Month 10. Elaboration of local solutions will be facilitated by a permaculture approach that allows a re-evaluation of the issues in the light of a "real needs" analyse by the community. Permaculture process should also allow the community to identify significant resources that have outlook or even ignored. The process will be documented and used as content of the episode 04.
- Month 11. Screening of episode 04, will inform the enlarged community and debate about the solutions to be implemented. Discussion facilitated by local facilitator and monitor by specialist. Implementation of the solutions by the community and, if agreed upon, with outsiders support and expertise.
- Month 12. Implementation of the solutions, as well as the discussions, supports or oppositions that they will raise, will be documented with 2 teams, the Art&Facts Films one supplemented by the local trained technicians. It will constitute the content of episode 05.
Screening of episode 05 will happen at the end of the month with all stakeholder in the audience including the municipality, the University of the Philippines Los Banos, and all foreign supports involved.

Year Two

- Month 13. Break that will be needed to assess the potential effectiveness of implemented solution. Punctual survey and documentation will be covered by the local film crew.
- Month 14. Assessment of the results and perspective induced by the implemented solutions. Evaluation of the their success, failure of limitation will be documented. Limits to the implementation and their motivations will be analyse and discussed. That will constitute the content of episode 06.
- Month 15. Screening of episode 06 in the village. Debate facilitated by local facilitator. Here an enlargement of the scope of the project will be proposed by the coordinator of this project and will be debated. Trips around the Verde Island Passage to visit other fishing community will be documented by the local film crew. An augmented foreign film crew from Art&Facts films will concentrate on the production of images of the Verde Island Passage unusual for the local communities, such as underwater footages, microscopic scientific images, aerial views, 3D computer graphic images.

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- Month 16. Post-production of the episodes 07 and 08 mixing images of the local team and Art&Facts Films. Scientists and experts, local and international, will be invited to comment on the image and the situation.
- Month 17. Screening of the episodes 07 and 08 in the village, followed by a debate facilitated by local facilitator and with an audience that will include the local government and national and international scientists. Here outside scientific support and technical expertise will be offered to enhance and supplement the local solutions. Ripple Watch initiative that is part of the UWPP will coordinate the collaboration with anthropologist advisors, if this collaboration is agreed upon. Design of the common solutions will be elaborate and debated within the month and the process will be documented by the local film crew.
- Month 18. Art&Facts Films will approach national TV networks and discuss a strategy to have the series broadcast nationally. Re-editing of the seven previous episodes might be required to fit a larger audience. The Verde Island Passage population outreach campaign will be associated with the programming of series and printed communication's set will be written and designed, including poster, booklet with DVD and game board. Meanwhile the local film crew will keep documenting the solutions proposed by outside experts.
- Month 19. Implementation of the solutions and their potential effects will be documented by the local film crew supported by Art&Facts crew. Exchange of knowledge between local fishermen and scientists will be organized around specific topics and around chosen film sequences. By validating local knowledges and infusing new ones, we expect to train "barefoot ecologists" who could be local experts and facilitators for other communities or local governments. Art&Facts Films will concentrate on the production of a long feature documentary exposing the Verde Island Passage situation and the initiative of the communities facilitated by the Acting Witness project.
- Month 20. Extra footage will be needed for an international audience. The printing of the communication and education set will be in process.
- Month 21. to 23. Art&Facts will maintain a regular presence on the field to support and keep training the local film crew. The documenting of the different stages of implementation of the solution will be maintained by the local crew with the supervision of Art&Facts. The screening and debate will be held on a regular basis for the 3 following months with a quiet but vigilant supervision of the coordinator of this project. The training of "barefoot ecologists" by experts will continue all along the implementation of the solutions.
- Month 24. Screening of the long feature documentary in the village with all stakeholders and supporters of the project. A first project evaluation by all stakeholders will be possible.

Year three

- Month 25. and 26. Broadcasting the series on 8 or 9 weeks at least on national or regional TV stations to reach the fishermen communities around the Verde Island Passage. This programming will support the awareness campaign on ground that will go from village to village to show the long version of the film and distribute printed documents and initiate facilitated debates. 4 to 5 villages a week could be reached within 8 to 9 weeks of TV broadcasting. So at least 45 villages strategically chosen could be implicated; more if the campaign is successful and goes on more than 9 weeks or if we can multiply the teams on the ground doing the screening and the facilitation, this will depend on the success of our training programs and the number of volunteers they will attract.
- Month 27. The long documentary will be sent to film festivals and proposed to international broadcasters. After its Festival and broadcasting exploitation it will be put on Internet for free access. It will be used as support for marine protection advocacy. Barefoot ecologists trained during the program will be able to animate debates and share their experience. Scientific papers and reports will be written to evaluate the pertinence of the project and its methodology.

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STAKEHOLDERS, COORDINATION & SUPPORT

Kabasingan is a remote fishing village essentially populated by Tagalog families. It is located on the Verde Island Passage, along the coast of Udalo, one of the ten barangays of the municipality of Abra de Ilog at the north of the Mindoro Occidental province that is still barely inaccessible by road. The last survey, made by the LGU (Local Government Unit), determined that among the 35 boats still practising the "officially illegal" dulong fishing on the municipality coast line, 30 were from the village of Kabasingan. This "sitio" is settled on the land of a private owner (Family Villiamin) and all the inhabitants are legally "tolerated squatters", though they often have been living there for generations. The number of families is not exactly known, probably less than 100. The entire population of the barangay being around 4000 peoples, which include Tagalog and Manyan Iraya, the indigenous communities living in the mountains. Kabasingan is perceived as a frontier zone where the military are patrolling only very occasionally. The schools, up to the secondary, are located at less than 15 minutes walk, in Bugtong the head village of the barangay. The local economy revolve around fishing, copra, rice fields, swine husbandry, boat building and carpentry. The dulong here represent an important extra revenue, that is estimated between 1.000 and 3.000 USD per year and per boat. All families are involved in several different economical activities. The community of Kabasingan will be our privileged interlocutor.

Mangyan Iraya is the indigenous community of this part of the Mindoro. They were originally living on the shores of the sea until Tagalog immigrants arrived in late 19th century, essentially from Luzon and the Visayas. They are known for both their reluctance to be integrated in the national centralised society, as well as for being extremely pacific by nature and willing to avoid any kind of confrontational interaction. They therefore withdrew progressively in the high lands, adapting their way of lives to local available resources. They are still nowadays totally self sufficient and only interact with coastal inhabitants to trade some products they grow or collect from the forest. Their materialistic needs are very limited, practically to steel blades, casseroles and salt, plus few "treats" such as canned sardine, instant coffee and sugar. Their need in cash is essentially for health emergency. They have been for a long time striving on slash and burn agriculture, complemented by hunting and foraging. Nevertheless the increase of their population seemed to have pushed them to successfully develop, 30 years ago, the cultivation of flooded rice fields, at least in one main village located 9 km from the coast. This village is called Latag and is not connected by any road or electric line. They demonstrated at several occasion a very high awareness and understanding of their natural environment. Unfortunately it seems that their knowledge are often totally ignored and are more renown for their physical strength and resistance. They are therefore occasionally hired for hardship labour on building sites.

Local Gouvernemenent Unit (LGU)

The municipality of Abra de Ilog has been under the control of the same family for 6 terms of 3 years each. Meg (Maria Gloria) and Eric Constantino succeeding each other in office of mayor, have pursued a coherent policy axed on social and environmental concerns since 1998. They have developed a very efficient and competent team around agriculture, fisheries and natural risk management. Both professional lawyers before getting involved in politic, they have been active defenders of the 25 years

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moratorium imposed in 2009 on big scale mining in the entire Mindoro Occidental. Meg Constantino has been re-elected in 2016 for another 3 years term.

Scientific community of the Philippines

UPLB University of the Philippines Los Banos is following and cooperating on the divers initiatives launched in the Udalo Watershed Pilot Project. We expect to develop with their support axes of research in domain spanning from Social Science and Community Development to Marine Biology; from Ecology Resource Management to Economy and Science of Communication.

SEARCA a regional collaborative research organisation regrouping all ASEAN countries around agriculture, husbandry and fishery best practices already expressed its interest and will be a precious source of expertise and data history to develop and evaluate the impact of this program.

External expertise and support

University of Montpellier, Ecole Normale Supérieure of Paris and University of Pittsburgh have sent or are expected to send students and professor from environmental sciences to anthropology departments, to study, evaluate and support this program.

Several private entities, commercial or non-profit already manifested their interest and will be contributing to the program with their specific expertise. Few of them are: [Ecocean](#), [Geco Ingénierie](#) (Génie Ecologique), [Performing Dialogues](#).

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PROJECT MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The regular visual and audio recording from start to end of the project, will guaranty a very accurate monitoring of the entire process. The unedited footage collection will constitute a very valuable depository of informations that will be available to later evaluations by divers experts such as anthropologist, biologists to social entrepreneurs or NGO. It will give a very clear baseline and detailed follow up of all eventual progress, obstacle or failure.

Scientific supervision

Reports & Articles are expected to be publish in review or online websites that will relate in details the methodologies used for this project. It will guaranty a reproducibility and evaluation of their respective efficiency at biological, sociological and economical level.

Practical results

Multimedia output, written documents as well as practical effects on the field are expected to be proof of concepts as well as the first steps of a work in progress about the way to engage local stakeholders in view of achieving a regenerating economy. All process and techniques will be "Open Source" available for non exclusive appropriation, adaptation and improvement.

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DESCRIPTION OF THE ORGANISATION UNDERTAKING THE OPERATION

Reflection and actions will be essentially performed by locals stakeholders, communities and governmental agencies.

The external contributors will be catalyser and structural supports

Udalo Watershed Pilot Project (UWPP)

This project is a citizen initiative initiated in January 2015. It is localized in the barangay of Udalo, a remarkably preserved area of the municipality of Abra de Ilog, Mindoro Occidental, Philippines. It has been operating on the field for a little more than a year now. The Udalo Watersheds Pilot Project is a proof of concept undertaken by a multidisciplinary coalition of NGOs, national and international institutions as well as public and private entities, all cooperating on a coordinated strategy. Its first essential goal is to demonstrate that an environmentally sustainable and fair economy will generate a significant enough increase of wealth to attract direct foreign investments. This proof of concept intends to be backed-up by rigorous scientific and economical metrics in order to certify adaptable and scalable methodologies, techniques and norms. It is an enterprise at territorial scale that encompass the most significant interconnected factors that participate to harmonious human settlements, from preserved biodiversity to abundant and affordable food and water, high level education, adapted housing and community equipments as well as communication and commercial opportunities. Working at the watershed's scale is allowing us to monitor and tune "upstream" factors that have tremendous impact on downstream ventures but stay very often out of reach. UWPP is a pilot project, therefore its vocation is to be adaptable on various territories and replicable at regional scale by setting up understandable and verifiable standards. Acting Witness in Kabasingan is an important part of this larger enterprise that is dedicated to develop tools and methods of communication and cooperation between all stakeholders.

ACTING WITNESS

Is a non profit structure and the coordinating entity of this particular project located in Kabasingan around the dulong fishing issue and the economical alternatives that could emerge from a large coalition of expertise and support.

ART&FACTS FILMS

Is a French film production company that has produce documentaries in many countries about social, cultural and environmental issues. Its films have been broadcast on many major TV channels in Europe, America and Asia.

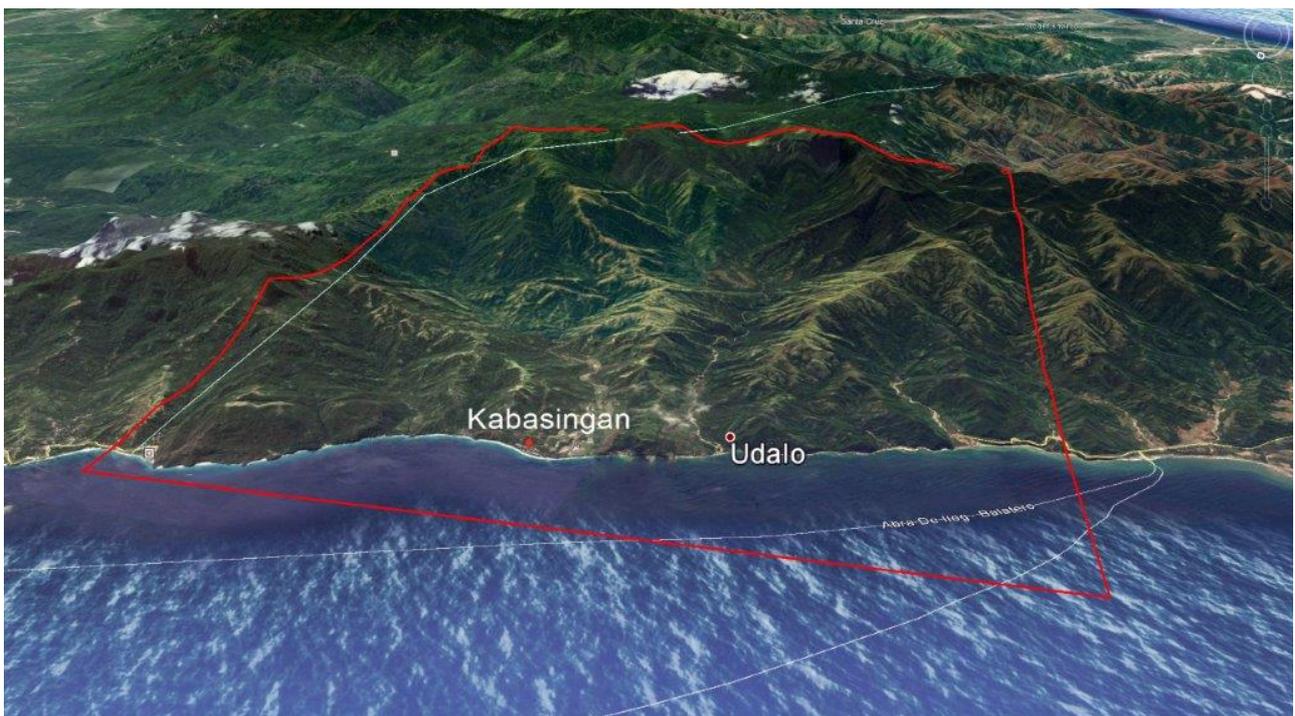
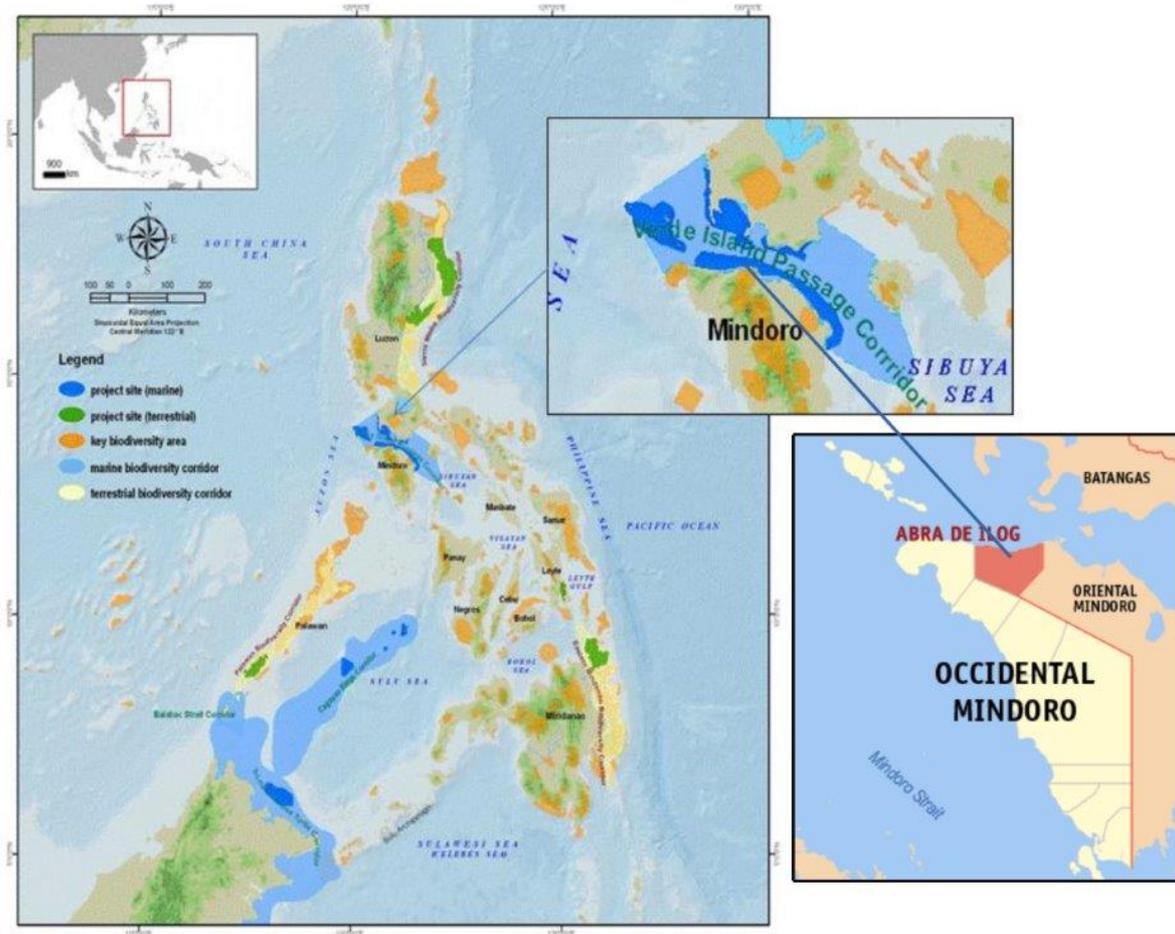
ECOCEAN

Is a French private company whose mission is to "put back fishes in the sea". They have been operating in many countries and ocean for over 20 years and have developed efficient approaches to restore fish stocks and repair coral reefs ecosystem by implementing artificial habitats and on land nurseries. They also designed specific alternative economical approaches to sustain local fishermen communities.

PERFORMING DIALOGUE (To be confirmed)

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MAPS



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BUDGET

1st YEAR

Total : \$ 106.270 USD

Research and development

1 Base and Community Facility

Production of 5 x 13 min educational documentary films

5 x Community outreach interventions

2nd YEAR

Total: \$ 59.765 USD

Outside expertise outreach

Solution implementations

Production 3 x 13 min educational documentary films

3 x Community outreach interventions

Long documentary complementary shooting

3rd YEAR

Total: \$ 54.235 US

Follow up of solution implementations

Final long documentary post-production

Educational global outreach program design

Support material development and design

National outreach program implementation

International outreach implementation

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NOTES & REFERENCES

Social capital as a key determinant of perceived benefits of community-based marine protected areas

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