



Implementing the Strategic Action Programme for the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand (SCS SAP Project)

FIRST MEETING OF REGIONAL WORKING GROUP ON CORAL REEFS

*Teleconference, 2 December 2021
13.00 – 17.00 Indochina time (ICT)*

**National Presentations on SAP implementation
PHILIPPINES**



UNOPS



SAP Evaluation (2008-2021)

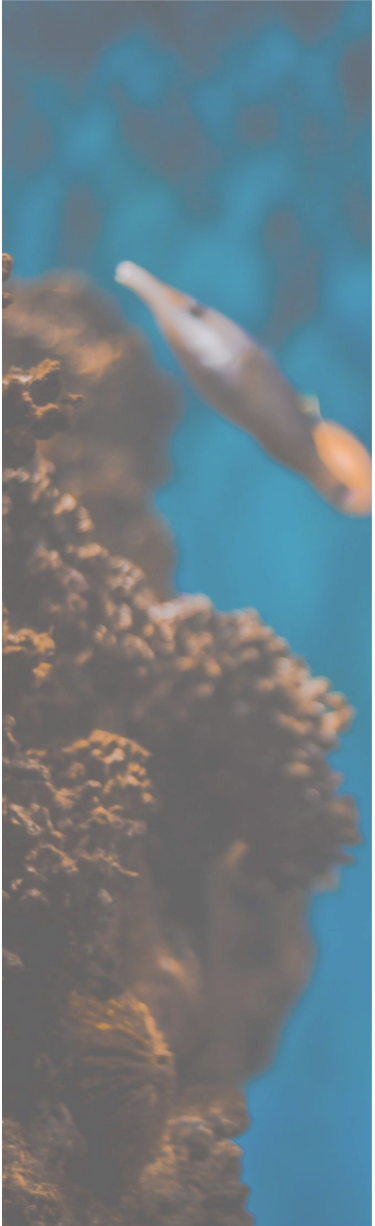
- Launch of the Sustainable Coral Reef Ecosystems Management Program (SCREMP) – DENR AO 2013-12
- Institutionalization of the Coastal and Marine Ecosystems Management Program (CMEMP) through the DENR Administrative Order 2016-26;
- Release of Technical Bulletin on General Considerations for Coral Reef Ecosystems Restoration/Rehabilitation (2019-03)
- Selected SAP sites are under a systematic form of management and conservation from either National Government or Local Communities/Local Govt Units



SAP Evaluation (2008-2021)

SAP Output/Target	Implication at the national level	Details at sites
Outcome 1.2. 110,430 ha of coral reef at 46 priority sites managed sustainably	4,406 Ha (4 sites)	Masinloc, Zambales – 748 Ha El Nido, Palawan – 1,920 Ha Bolinao/Lingayen Gulf – 1,384 Ha Maricaban Strait, Batangas – 354 Ha
1.2.1 Management capacity (number/levels human resources, facilities and equipment, and sustainable financing mechanisms) built for 46 coral reef sites	4	Masinloc, Zambales El Nido, Palawan Bolinao/Lingayen Gulf Maricaban Strait, Batangas
1.2.2 Management approaches and policy, legal & institutional reforms (integrated, community- based, multiple use) improved at 46 coral reef sites	2	Masinloc, Zambales El Nido, Palawan
1.2.3 Management tools (licensing and permit systems, seasonal closures, zoning) developed and utilized to address key threats at priority sites	4	Masinloc, Zambales El Nido, Palawan Bolinao/Lingayen Gulf Maricaban Strait, Batangas
1.2.4 Established mechanism for monitoring management, ecological and socio-economic indicators at 46 sites [based on SAP results framework]	4	Masinloc, Zambales El Nido, Palawan Bolinao/Lingayen Gulf Maricaban Strait, Batangas





SAP Implementation: Best Practices

- Establishment of Protected Areas covering coral reefs with a multi-sectoral Management Board
- Formulation of Management Plans and promoting stewardship among stakeholders
- Management/regulation of resource use (e.g. ecotourism, fisheries, navigation)
- Sustainable financing mechanisms in the form of User's Fee
- Monitoring of biodiversity for science-based decisions
- Strengthening of public awareness and increased frequency of patrols/creation of law enforcement bodies

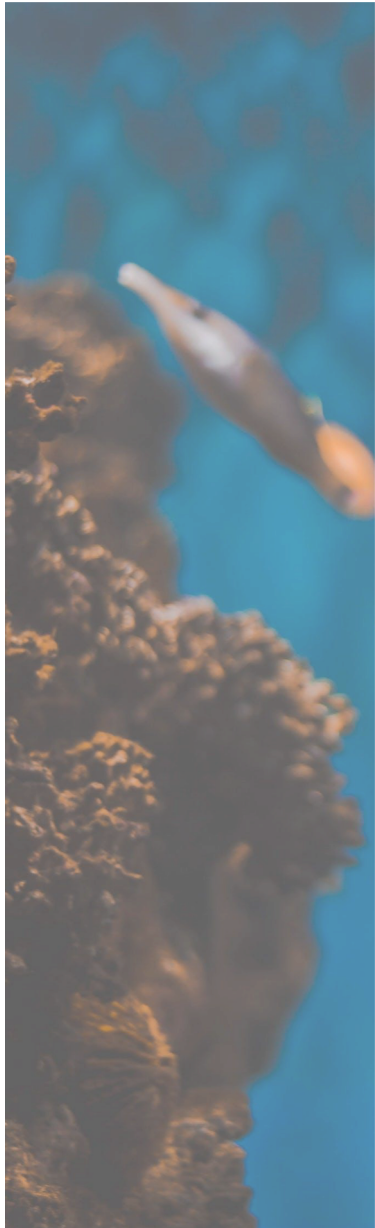




SAP Implementation: Challenges

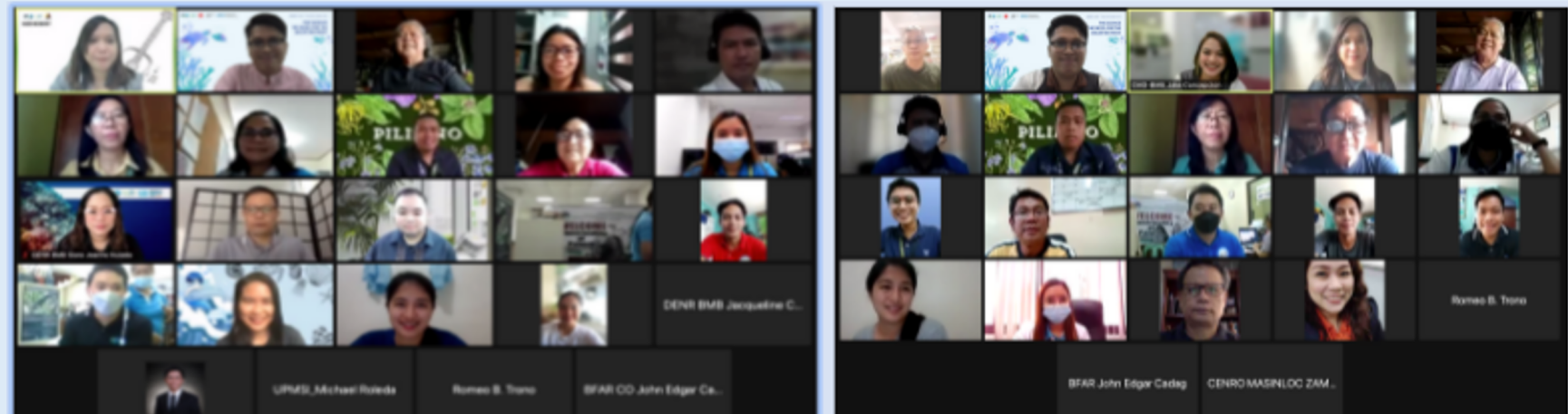
- Marine debris and deteriorating water quality
- Unsustainable fishing practices
- Presence of unnatural numbers of Crown-of-Thorns Seastar
- Encroachment and unregulated development activities
- Tourism and anchor damage

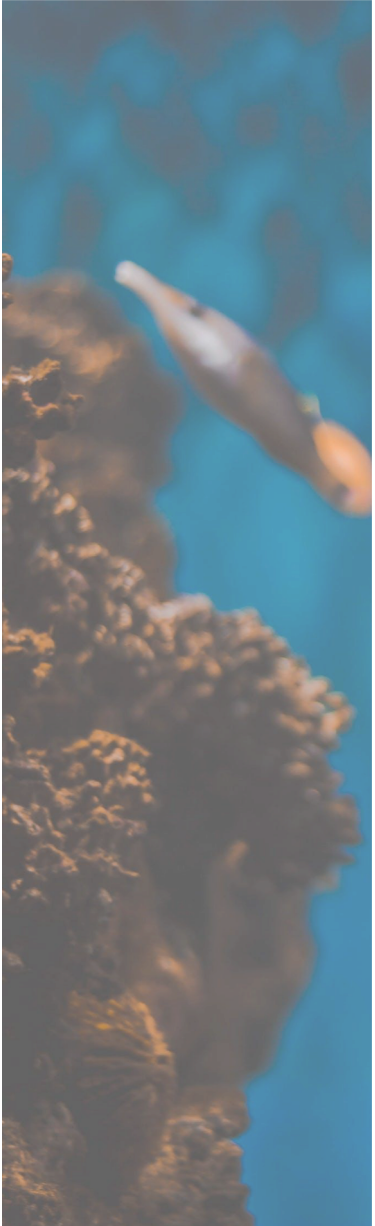




SAP Implementation: Consultations

- Conduct of the National Consultations on July 27 and September 29-30, 2021 to confirm the concurrence of the local managers on the identified sites, as well as to gather initial site information and to identify initial activities to be performed under the program.



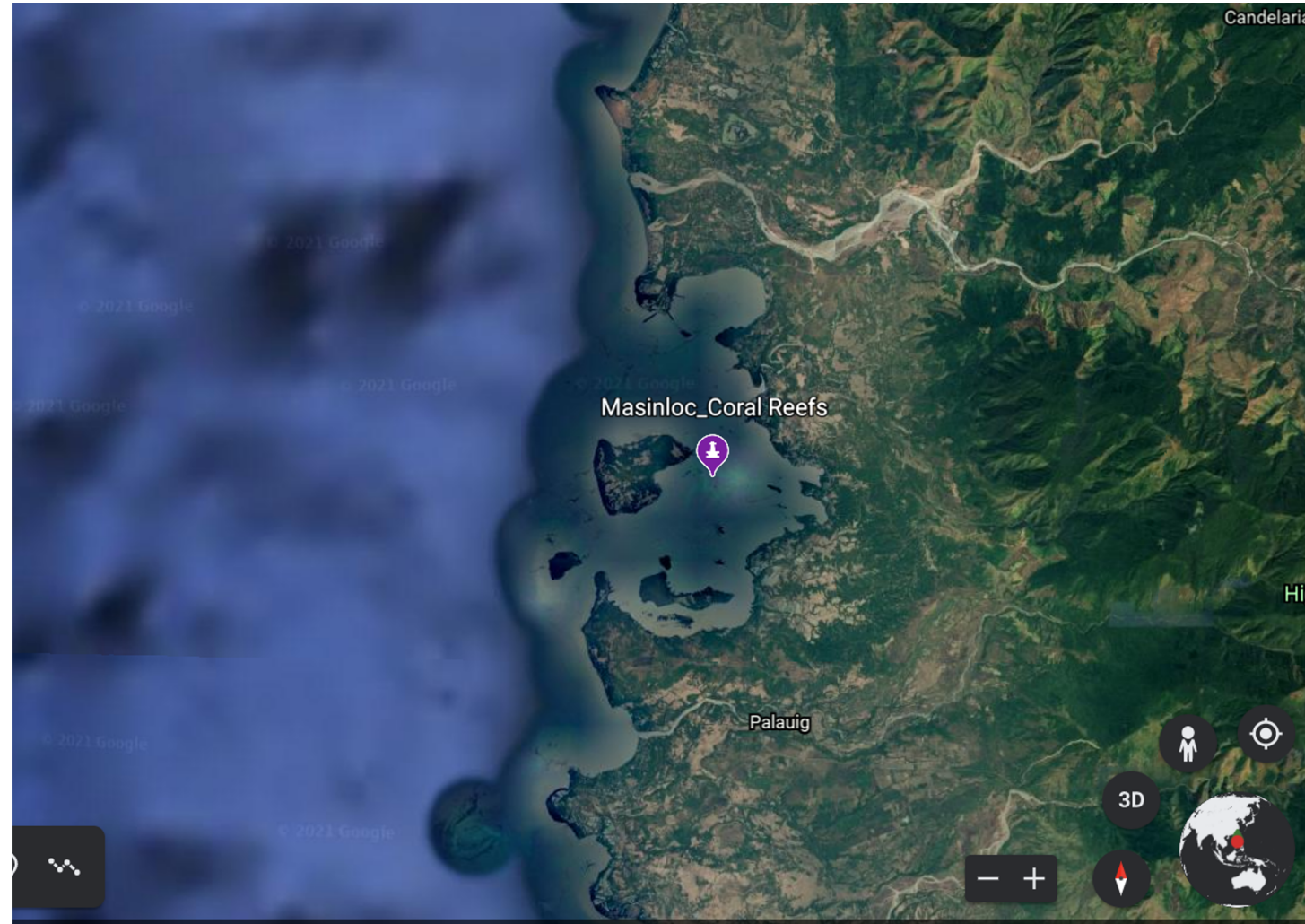
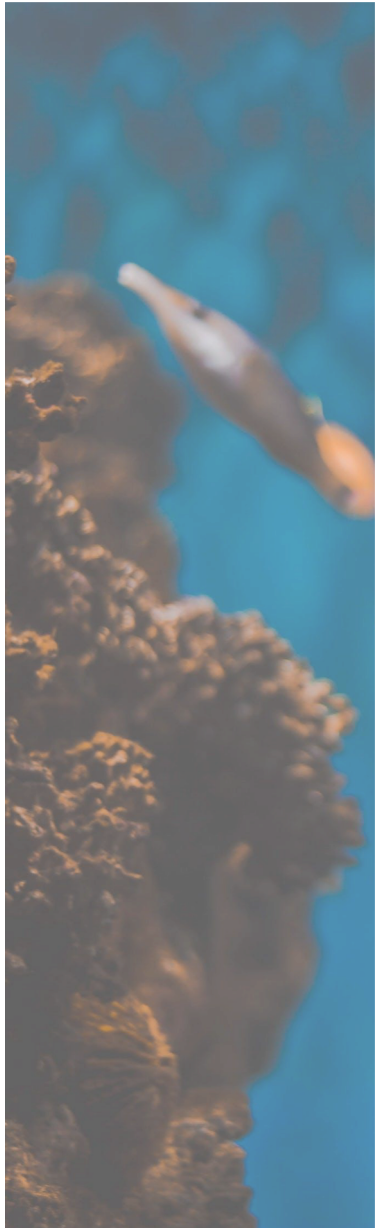


SAP Implementation: Site selection

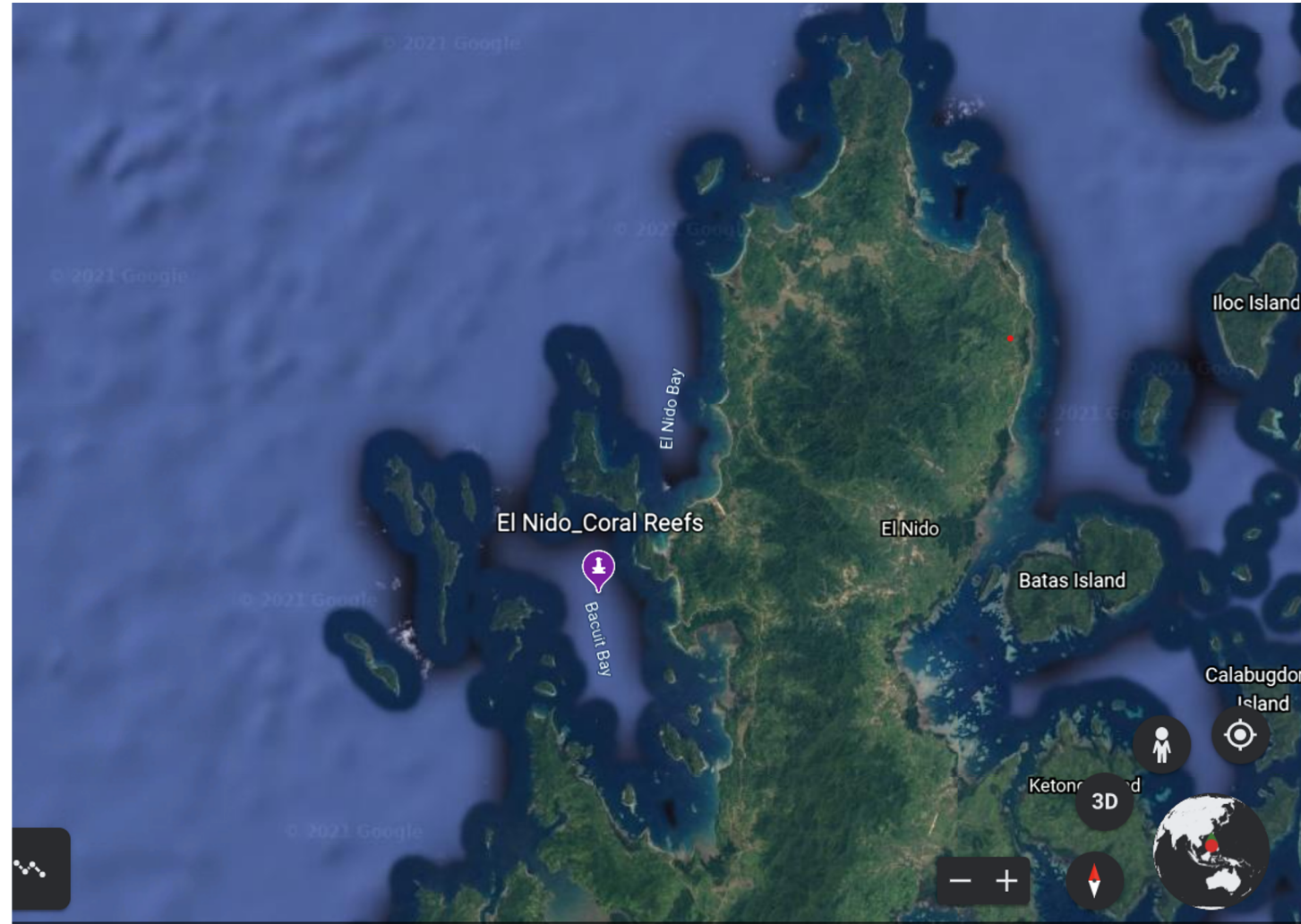
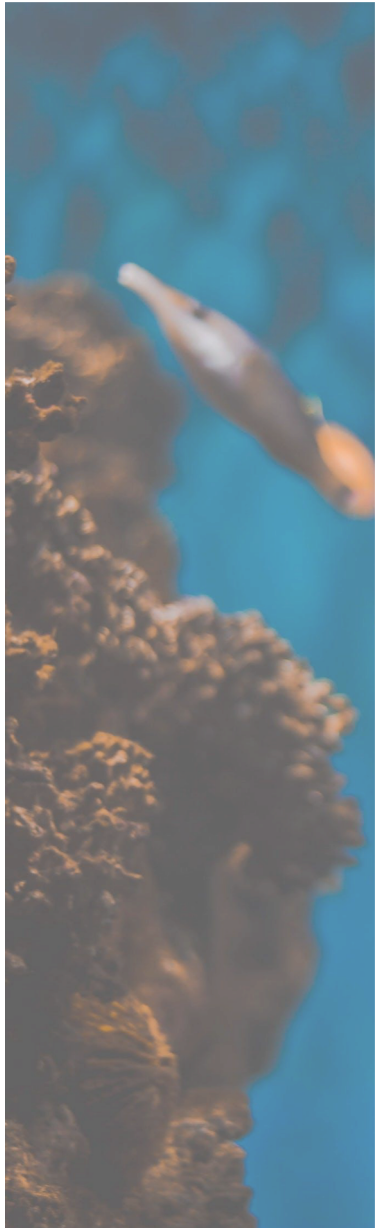
- Four (4) sites were retained from the original nine (9) identified
- Changes were based on inputs from partners and stakeholders (e.g. logistical challenges, lack of information, participation of locals, political situation)
- Several outputs were deemed accomplished or are currently being addressed by government programs or similar donor-funded projects with co-financing from the Philippines
- Areal extents were also changed based on quick assessments of original sites done by the Implementation Unit



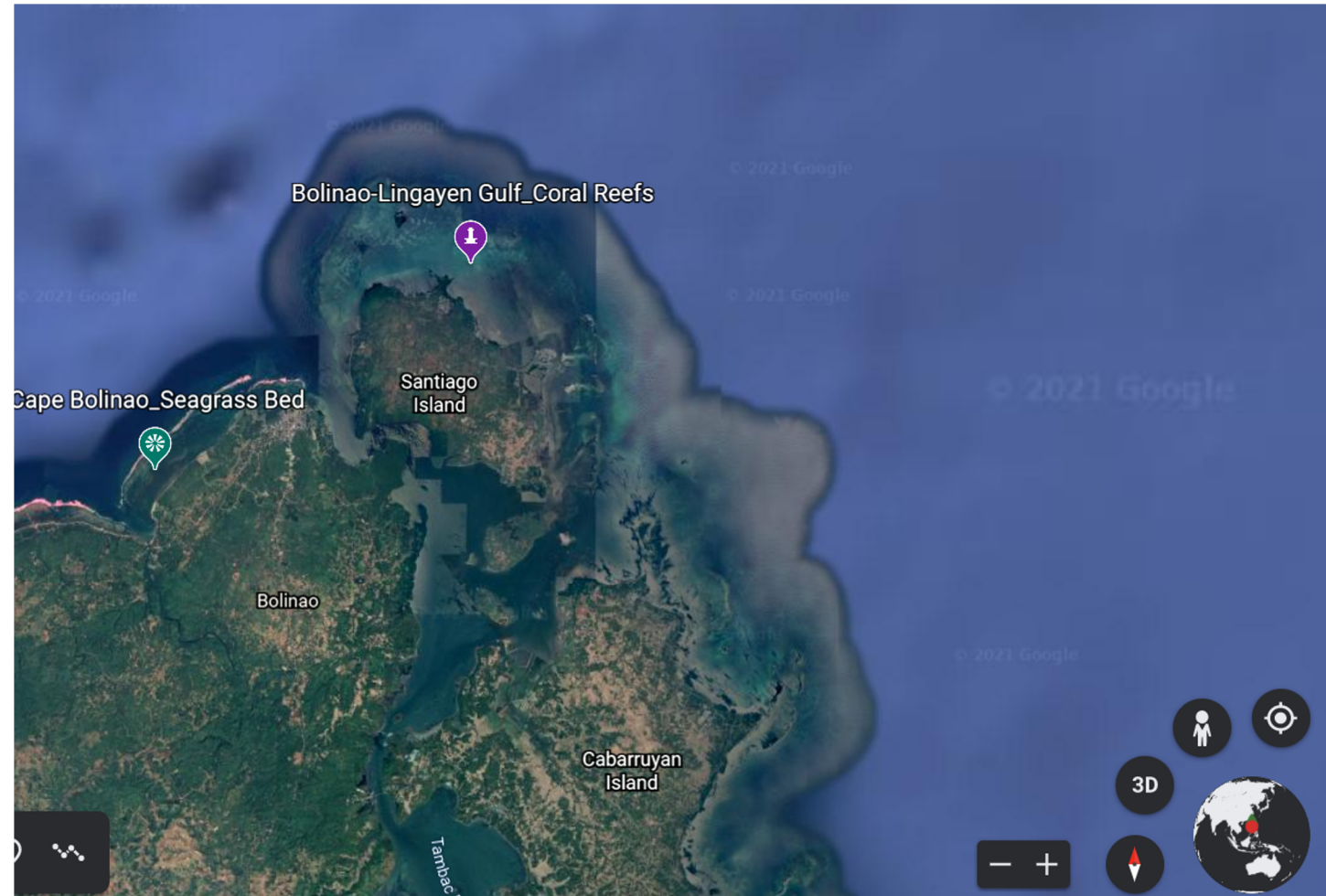
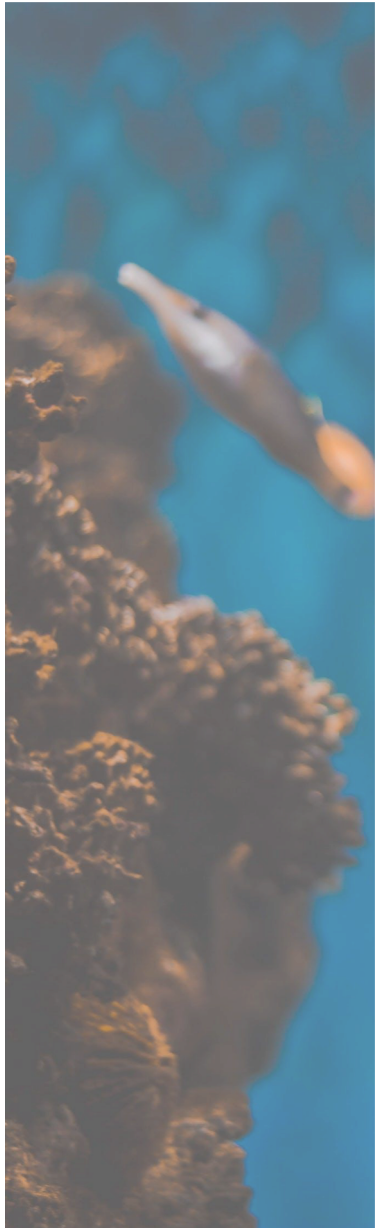
SAP Implementation: Site selection



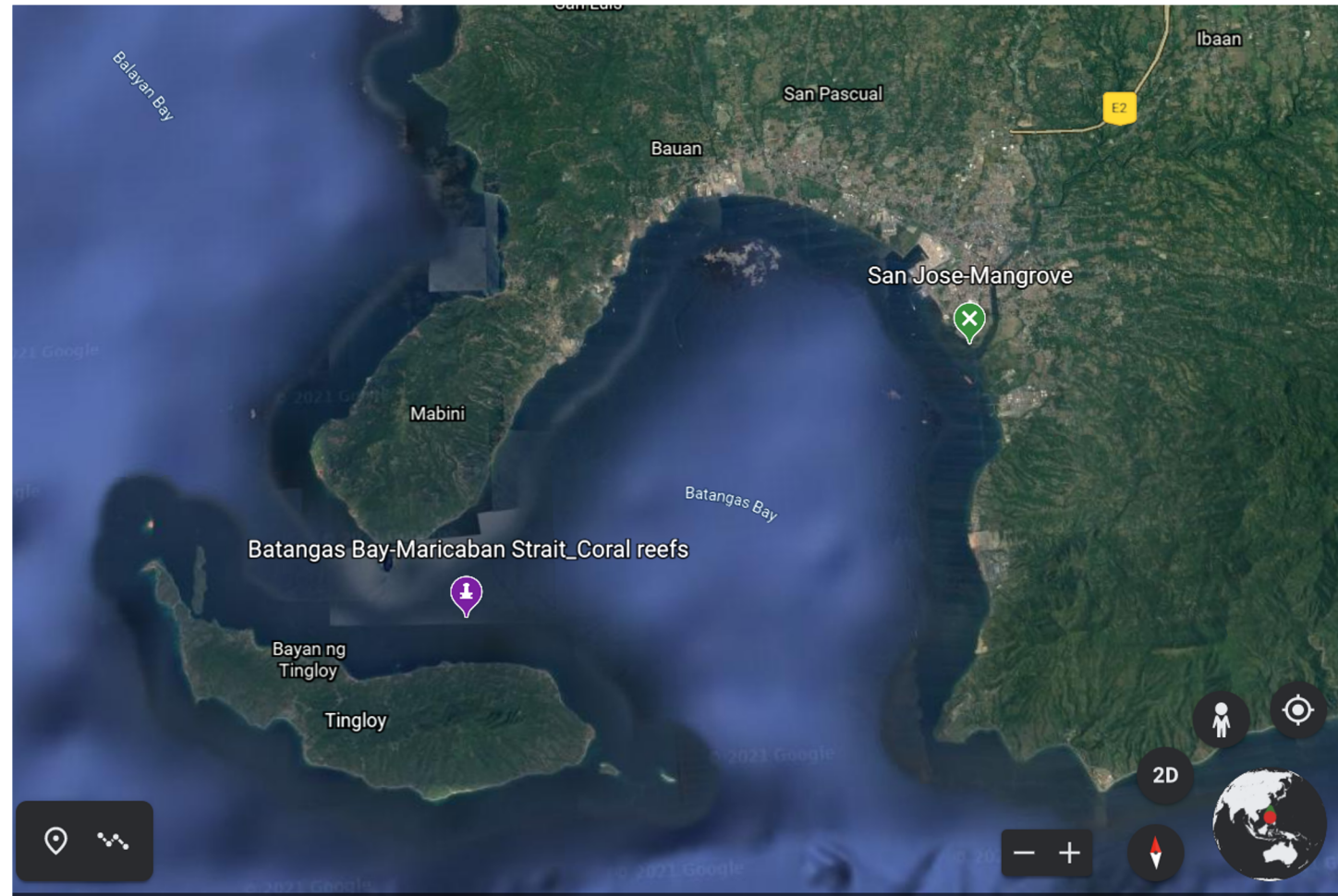
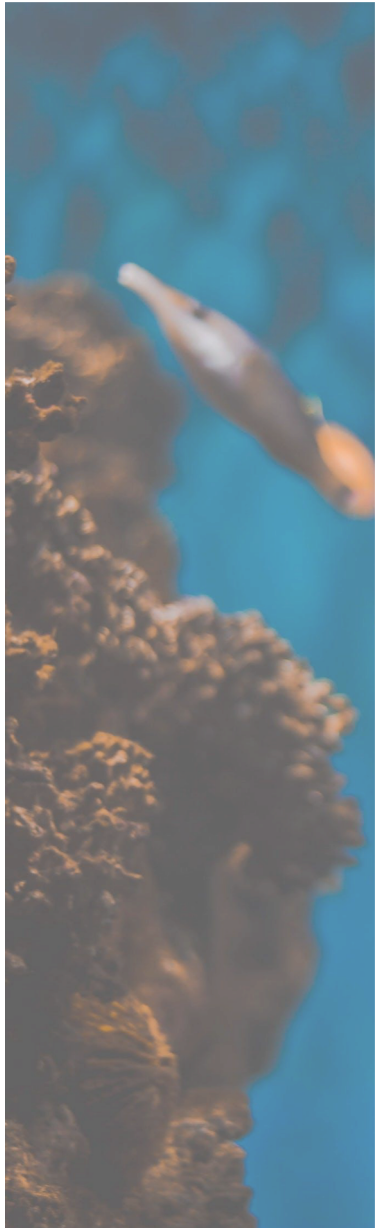
SAP Implementation: Site selection

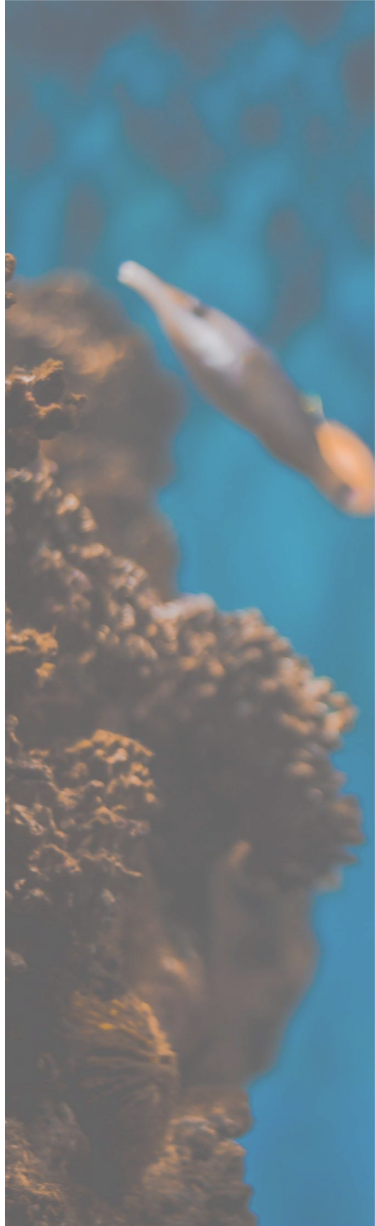


SAP Implementation: Site selection



SAP Implementation: Site selection





SAP Implementation: Activities

- Capacity Development for PA managers and community-based coastal and marine law enforcement
- Integration/streamlining of different Management Plans
- Regular habitat monitoring, patrolling, and COTS removal
- Formulation of relevant policies (e.g. use of mooring buoys, determination of carrying capacity, boat accreditation)
- Strengthening of the implementation of fishery ordinances by partner LGUs
- Mainstreaming of ICM in CLUP
- Regular conduct of Management Effectiveness Assessments





Final considerations

- Harmonized and streamlined management plans
- Promotion of stewardship among all stakeholders
- Assessment and reform (if necessary) of existing local policies
- Adoption of good practices and documentation of the same

