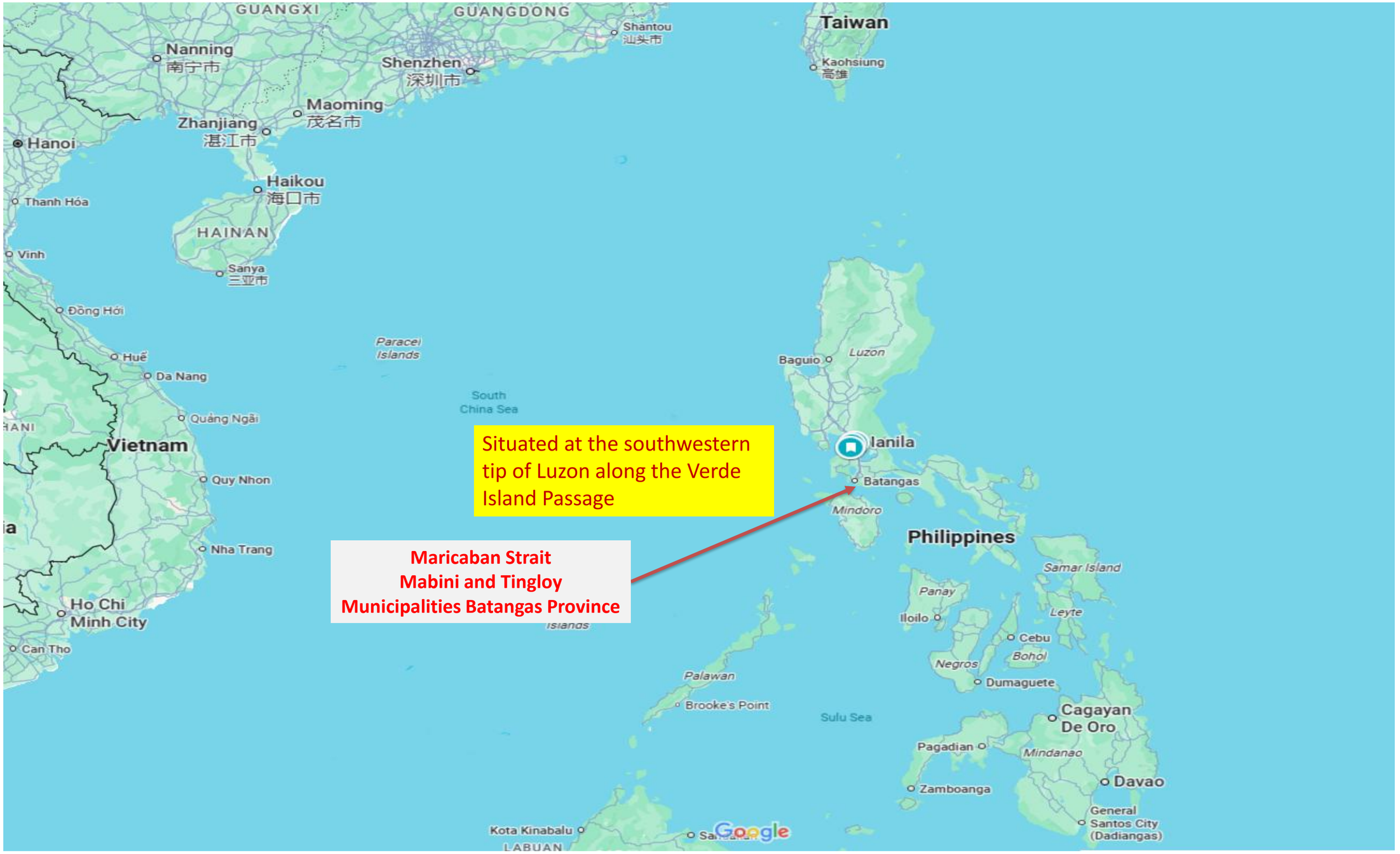
Implementing the Strategic Action Programme for THE SOUTH CHINA SEA AND GULF OF THAILAND (SCS SAP) Project

Second Roundtable of Local Representatives of the SCS SAP Project

17 September, 2025, Jakarta, Indonesia

Chart on Practices and Lessons Learnt at the Site/local Level

A Geographic Context Municipality of Tingloy


GUANGXI
GUANGDONG
Taiwan
Shantou
汕头市
Nanning
南宁市
Shenzhen
深圳市
Kaohsiung
高雄
Maoming
茂名市
Zhanjiang
湛江市
Hanoi
Haikou
海口市
Thanh Hóa
HAINAN
Vinh
Sanya
三亚市
Đồng Hới
Paracel Islands
Huế
Da Nang
South China Sea
Quảng Ngãi
Vietnam
Baguio
Luzon
Situated at the southwestern tip of Luzon along the Verde Island Passage
Manila
Batangas
Mindoro
Quy Nhon
Philippines
Nha Trang
Maricaban Strait
Mabini and Tingloy
Municipalities Batangas Province
Samar Island
Panay
Leyte
Iloilo
Ho Chi Minh City
Cebu
Bohol
Negros
Can Tho
Palawan
Dumaguete
Brooke's Point
Sulu Sea
Cagayan De Oro
Pagadian
Mindanao
Davao
Zamboanga
General Santos City (Dadiangas)
Kota Kinabalu
LABUAN
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MARICABAN STRAIT
Municipalities of Mabini and Tingloy

Municipal Waters of Mabini and Tingloy

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Chart on Practices and Lessons Learnt at the Site/local Level

Tingloy, Batangas, Philippines

Vice Mayor Dawn Erika Alvarez, DMD

About my site

Total area and population

TINGLOY, BATANGAS

LOCATION: ISLAND MUNICIPALITY IN SOUTHWESTERN BATANGAS, PHILIPPINES, ABOUT 4 HOURS FROM MANILA.

COORDINATES: 13° 39’N, 120° 52’E.

SURROUNDING WATERS:
NORTH – MARICABAN STRAIT
EAST – BATANGAS BAY
WEST – BALAYAN BAY
SOUTH – VERDE ISLAND PASSAGE

NOTABLE AREAS: PINAGBANDERAHAN, MAG-ASAWANGBATO, SOMBRERO ISLAND, BONITO ISLAND, MALAJIBONGMANOC ISLAND AND CABAN ISLAND.

ACCESSIBILITY:
BY LAND: BUS FROM METRO MANILA VIA SOUTH LUZON EXPRESSWAY (SLEX) AND SOUTHERN TAGALOG ARTERIAL ROAD (STAR).
BY SEA: MOTORIZED BOATS/SEA VESSELS FROM MABINI, BATANGAS PORT

TOTAL LAND AREA: 33.07 SQUARE KILOMETERS (12.77 SQUARE MILES); 3,241.3084 HECTARES (1.06% OF BATANGAS PROVINCE)

POPULATION (2020 CENSUS): 19,215 (0.66% OF BATANGAS PROVINCE TOTAL POPULATION OR 0.12% OF THE OVERALL POPULATION OF THE CALABARZON REGION)

POPULATION DENSITY: 581 INHABITANTS PER SQUARE KILOMETER (1,505 INHABITANTS PER SQUARE MILE)

SIGNIFICANCE:
POPULAR TOURIST DESTINATION.
IMPORTANT FISHING GROUND
IMPORTANT HUB FOR MARINE CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. WESTERN TIP OF VERDE ISLANDS PASSAGE (CENTER OF THE CENTER OF GLOBAL MARINE SHOREFISH DIVERSITY)

About my site

Specific indigenous features

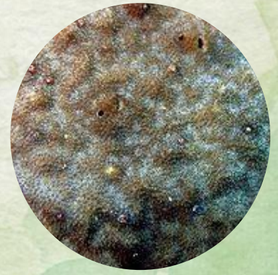
TINGLOY, BATANGAS

Heliopora coerulea

Lobophyllia flabelliformis

Montipora caliuculata

Montipora vietnamensis



Psammocora nierstraszi

Halomitra clavator

Acropora elegans

Acropora efflorescens

Catalaphyllia Jardinei

Acropora Simplex

Table 01. List of Rare Coral Species

Scientific Name of Coral Species
1. *Acropora efflorescens*
2. *Catalaphyllia jardini*
3. *Enallopsammia sp.*
4. *Acropora elegans*
5. *Acropora simplex*
6. *Halomitra clavator*
7. *Leptoseris tubulifera*

Source: Fenner, 2003

Table 02. List of Coral Species Found in Mabini and Tingloy Waters, Not Previously Reported in the Philippines and Possible New Species

	New Reports	Possible New Species
1.	*Acropora efflorescent*	*Acropora danai-like*
2.	*Acropora plumose*	*Acropora pinguis-like*
3.	*Acropora russelli*	*Montipora sp. "brown*
4.	*Acropora speciose*	*Platygyra sp. "green"*
5.	*Astreopora suggesta*	*Montastrea sp.*
6.	*Echinopora hirsutissima*	*Tubipora sp.*
7.	*Fungia taiwanensis*	*Helipora sp.*
8.	*Goniopora albiconus*	
9.	*Halomitra clavator*	
10.	*Heliopora coerulea*	
11.	*Lobophyllia flabelliformis*	
12.	*Montipora caliuculata*	
13.	*Montipora vietnamensis*	
14.	*Psammocora nierstraszi*	
15.	*Rhizopsammia verrilli*	
16.	*Seriatopora aculeate*	
17.	*Stylophora subseriata*	
18.	*Tubipora musica*	

Source: Fenner, 2003

About my site

Areas of critical habitats

TINGLOY, BATANGAS

Coral Reefs

- Tingloy is located along the Verde Island Passage, known as the “Center of the Cente of Marine Shorefish Biodiversity.”
- Hosts extensive coral reef systems, including dive sites around Sombrero Island, Caban Island, and Bonito Island.
- Reefs support high fish diversity and are vital for fisheries, tourism (diving/snorkeling), and coastal protection.

Mangroves

- Patches of mangrove forests are found along coastal areas, serving as nursery grounds for fish and invertebrates.
- Provide shoreline stabilization and protection against erosion and storm surge
- Mangrove areas also contribute to carbon sequestration and local livelihoods.

Seagrass Beds

- Seagrass meadows are found in shallow bays and coastal waters, often adjacent to mangroves and reefs.
- Serve as critical feeding grounds for sea turtles and other marine species.

About my site

Main economic activities and Future Development Direction

TINGLOY, BATANGAS

Agriculture (Primary Economic Base)

- Total land area: 3,241.3 hectares, with 91.67% dedicated to crops.
- Major crops: rice, coconuts, corn, bananas, root crops, fruits, and vegetables.
- Other activities: poultry and livestock raising, fishing.
- Supports food security and local livelihoods.




Future Development Direction

- Enhance agricultural productivity.
- Promote agri-based MSMEs to complement tourism growth.
- Integrate conservation with sustainable tourism and agriculture
- Strengthen fisheries management and address Illegal Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) Fishing
- ICM Code of Tingloy
- Blue Economy

Tourism (Emerging Growth Sector)

- Increasingly important due to Tingloy's natural attractions.
- Features 30 dive sites, marine protected areas, and scenic spots like Masasa Beach.
- Draws both local and international tourists.
- Focus on eco-tourism and marine-based tourism as key development thrusts.



About my site

Threats to coastal habitats and environmental concerns

TINGLOY, BATANGAS

Pollution

- Solid waste from local communities, passing ships, and neighboring municipalities during the southwest monsoon.
- Plastic waste accumulation from tourism activities (22 tons collected in recent years through community, NGO, and NGA efforts).
- Pollution linked to increased human activity and nearby industrial facilities/ports.




Habitat Degradation

- Coral reef damage from destructive fishing practices (dynamite, cyanide, ghost fishing).
- Physical damage from boat anchors and unregulated diving activities.
- Sedimentation from poor land-use and shoreline development.
- Climate related impacts




About my site

Threats to coastal habitats and environmental concerns

TINGLOY, BATANGAS

Resource Decline

- Overfishing due to intrusion of commercial vessels and IUU fishing.
- Catching of juvenile and spawning fish, undermining fisheries sustainability.




Biodiversity Loss

- Tingloy's reefs, part of the Verde Island Passage (a global biodiversity hotspot), face escalating risks from human activities and climate related impacts.
- Declines in reef health and fish populations threaten long-term ecosystem resilience




TINGLOY, BATANGAS

Highlights of key activities

Declaration of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)

Policy Development and Community-Based Law Enforcement

Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)

- Established Pirasan MPA (2018) and Masasa MPA (2023).
- Enhanced local management and monitoring of marine habitats.

Policy Development and Community-Based Law Enforcement

- Strengthened capacity of local enforcers and Bantay Dagat groups.
- Improved protection against illegal fishing and habitat destruction
- On-going drafting and consultations for ICM Code of Tingloy using a source-to-sea which will include institutional development, tourism development, capacity building, community engagement, CEPA Campaigns, solid waste management, fisheries management, and sustainable financing mechanisms

TINGLOY, BATANGAS

Highlights of key activities

Policy and Ordinances

Policy and Ordinances

- 2009: Plastic bag regulation ordinance.
- 2022: Sewerage system management ordinance.
- 2023: Responsible tourist waste management ordinance.

Highlights of key activities

Institutional Mechanisms

Partnerships and Collaboration

TINGLOY, BATANGAS

Institutional Mechanisms

- Creation of a Coastal Resources Management Board to oversee municipal waters.
- Implementation of conservation fees to fund protection and management

Partnerships and Collaboration

- Longstanding collaboration with WWF, CI, SCPW, and Pure Oceans.
- Coordination with local and national law enforcement agencies for marine biodiversity protection

Highlights of key achievements

Establishment and management of Protected Areas of all categories

TINGLOY, BATANGAS

Establishment and management of Protected Areas (PAs) of all categories

- Tingloy has established three Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) over the past 16 years:
- Batalang Bato Marine Park and Sanctuary – established in 2007, covering 2.5 hectares.
- Pirasan MPA – established in 2018, covering 22.015 hectares.
- Masasa MPA – established in 2023, covering 22.8 hectares.

Collectively, these MPAs now protect a total of 47.315 hectares.

Highlights of key achievements

Approval and implementation of plans for sustainable resources management & use, and land-based pollution management:

TINGLOY, BATANGAS

Approval and implementation of plans for sustainable resources management & use, and land-based pollution management:

- Comprehensive Land Use Plan (2018–2027)
- Waste Management Ordinances
- Forthcoming Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) Code
- Planned ICM and MPA Management Plans

TINGLOY, BATANGAS

Highlights of key achievements

Reform of laws/regulations or management approach for ecosystem sustainable use and land-based pollution prevention

Reform of laws/regulations or management approach for ecosystem sustainable use and land-based pollution prevention

- Drafting of Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) Code
- Adoption of Ridge-to-Reef-Source to Sea Approach
- Stakeholder Involvement.

Highlights of key achievements

Engagement of stakeholders

TINGLOY, BATANGAS

Engagement of stakeholders

The following stakeholders are involved in coastal management in Tingloy, with their respective responsibilities:

- **Coastal Resource Management Board (CRMB):** Strategic oversight, policy direction, and ordinance enforcement
- **CRMB Secretariat (LGU-Mun. Planning & Dev Off/Tourism Office)**: Program management, enforcement, technical operations, and data consolidation & reporting
- **LGU-Mun Environment & Natural Resources Office (MENRO**): Environmental compliance ar education
- **LGU-Mun Agriculture Office (MAO):** Overseeing institutional development and operations o BantayDagat or Coastal Guardians
- **LGU-Tourism Office**: Promotions, orientation programs, and coordination with tourism stakeholders
- **LGU-Treasurer's Office**: Collection, custody, and accounting of funds
- **Partner NGOs/Academic or Research Institutions**: Technical assistance, capacity-building, ar program implementation support
- **Accredited Resorts/Dive Shops/Authorized** BantayDagat: Dive pass issuance, sales collection remittance, reporting, and frontline information dissemination

Highlights of key achievements

Enforcement mechanism

TINGLOY, BATANGAS

Enforcement mechanism

Tingloy's enforcement mechanism involves a collaborative effort between Coastal Guardians (BantayDagat), Phil. Coast Guard, PNP-MG, Barangay officials, and stakeholders. Key activities include:

- Developing and implementing a monitoring and enforcement plan
- Conducting land-based and seaborne inspections to ensure compliance with diver pass requirements
- Issuing citation tickets to violators, confiscating gear and equipment, and imposing penalties
- Providing frontline environmental education to promote awareness and compliance

Highlights of key achievements

Financial mechanism for sustaining conservation and management

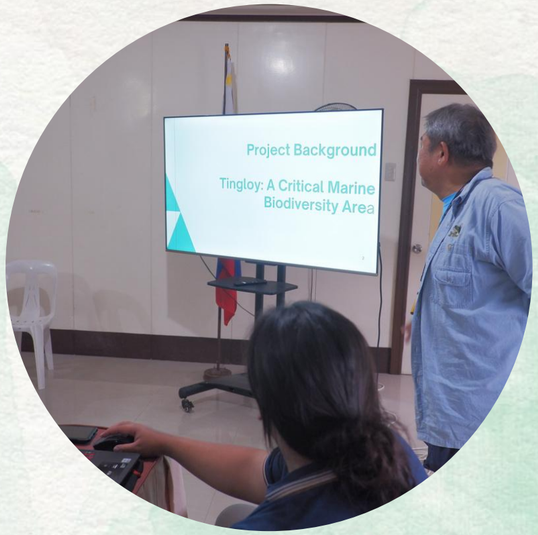
TINGLOY, BATANGAS

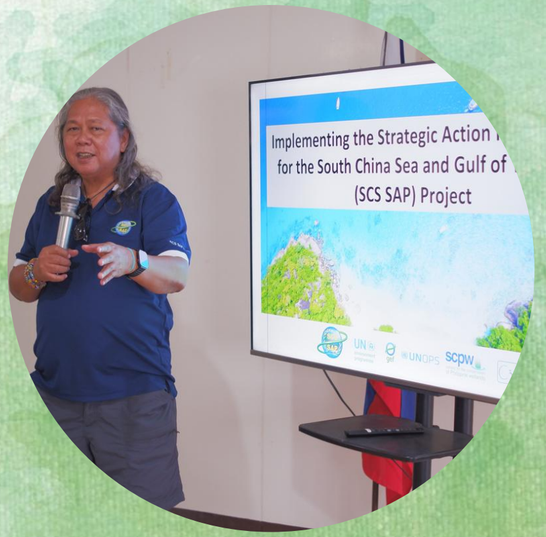
Financial mechanism for sustaining conservation and management

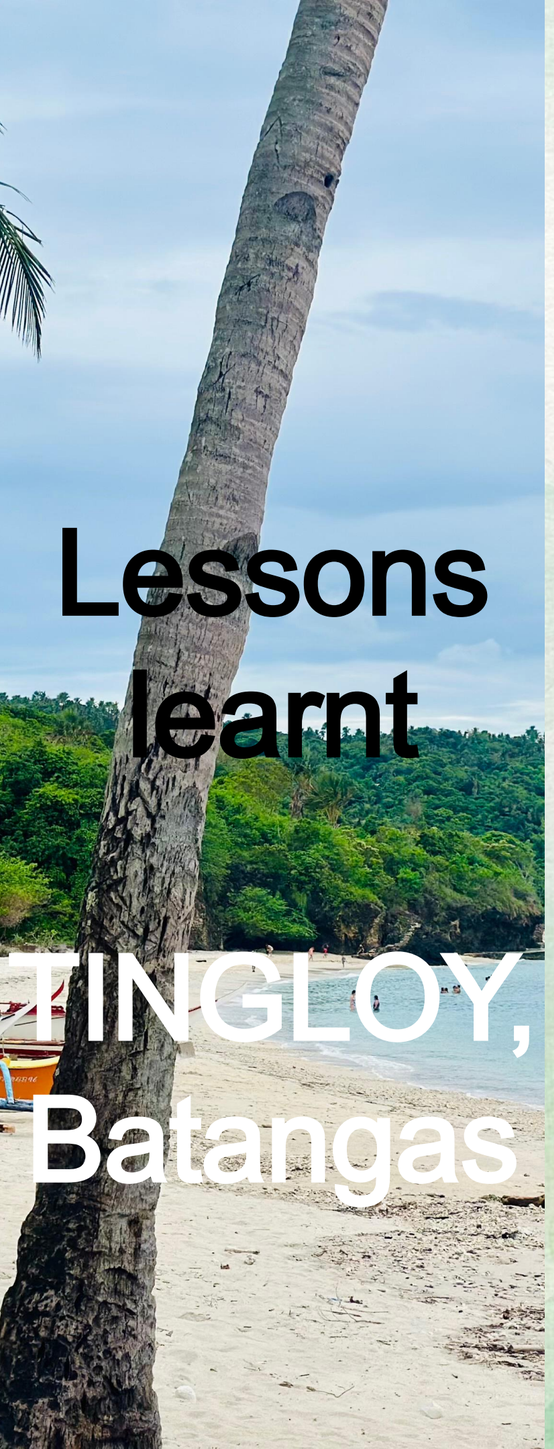
- 2024 Ordinance on Dive Pass/ User's fee
- 2017 Ordinance on Environmental User's Fee

The draft ICM Code outlines a financial mechanism to support the long-term implementation of Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) programs. Key components include:

- **ICM Trust Fund:** Establishing a trust fund sourced from environmental user fees, fines, penalties, grants, and other lawful sources to support ICM initiatives
- **Public-Private Partnerships:** Encouraging partnerships for conservation and resource management projects, ensuring transparency and accountability
- **Accounting and Reporting:** Ensuring proper accounting, auditing, and public disclosure procedures for all ICM-related funds to promote transparency and accountability







Lessons learnt

TINGLOY, Batangas

- **Political Leadership and Policy Continuity:** Changes in political leadership can impact coastal management initiatives. Solution: Establish a strong legal policy framework, such as a Municipal Ordinance or Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) Code, to ensure continuity and sustainability of conservation efforts across administrations. (Tingloy is currently drafting an ICM Code to address this challenge.)
- **Community Engagement and Participation:** Engaging stakeholders and grassroots communities in conservation efforts can be challenging. Solution: Foster inclusive participation in planning, implementation, and evaluation processes to promote a sense of ownership and sustainability. Institutionalize capacity-building measures to empower stakeholders and encourage active participation.
- **Resource Constraints and Sustainable Financing:** Remote locations with limited economic opportunities can lead to over-reliance on natural resources, while insufficient funding can hinder conservation efforts. Solution: Develop sustainable financing mechanisms to support conservation initiatives. Leverage technical, organizational, and managerial support from national government agencies (NGAs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to supplement local efforts. Currently the LGU is collaborating with Pure Oceans to address plastic waste management and exploring partnerships with leading environmental NGOs.
- **Effective Implementation of Legal Framework:** Having an effective legal policy framework is crucial, but strict implementation and enforcement are equally important. Solution: Strengthen law enforcement by engaging community-based ridge-to-reef guardians, equipping them with necessary resources, and fostering collaboration with local and national law enforcement agencies. This multi-stakeholder approach enhances compliance monitoring and enforcement operations, ensuring effective protection of coastal resources


MARAMING SALAMAT PO!
TERIMA KASIH!
THANK YOU!
Come and visit TINGLOY!!!