



Empowering the Youth as Change Agents for Responsible Sexuality, HIV/AIDS/STI Prevention and Environmental Conservation



The Ashmore
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COASTAL RESOURCES CENTER
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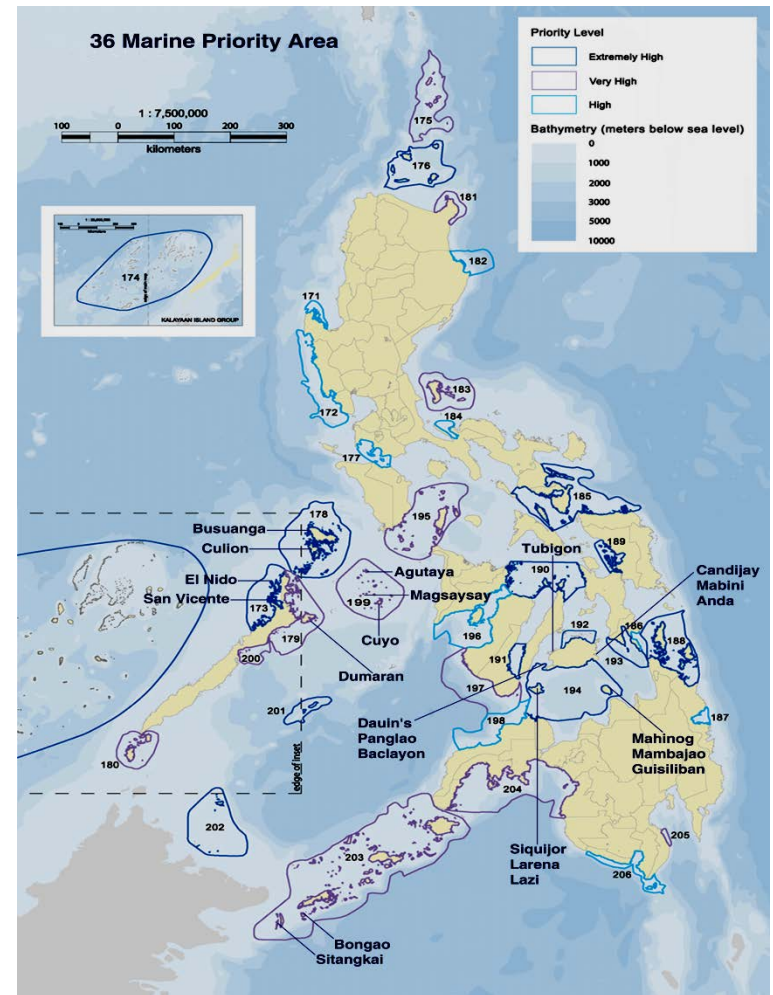
PATH Foundation
Philippines, Inc.

CONSERVATION
INTERNATIONAL



PATH Foundation Philippines Inc (PFPI)

- Non-stock, non-profit corporation
- SEC registered (1992)
- 501c3 status (2002)
- Technical assistance and executing agency



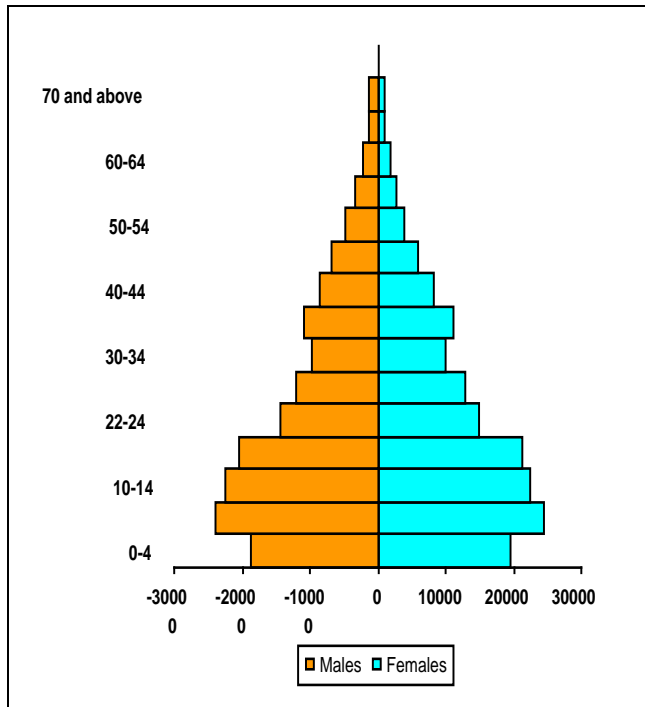
Republic of the Philippines

Country Facts

- 7,100 islands
- 94 million people (2012)
- Rapid growth rate (1.9% 2010)
- High population momentum (35%)
- Increasing poverty incidence = 45% live below U\$2
- Majority of Filipinos reside in coastal zone (62%)
- Fishing dependent



Youth Population Dynamics



- High population momentum (35%)
- Adolescents 10-19 make up 22% of the overall population
- High fertility/teen pregnancy
- High need for FP (37%)
- 10% of 15-19 y/o women begun childbearing

Issues of Young People

- School drop out
- Unemployment /underemployment
- Lack of access to FP/RH information and services



Youth Empower Project

- Targets young people 15-24 y/o to plan and implement integrated PHE approaches that promote self-help, improve quality of life and enhance the sustainability of coastal/marine resources in high biodiversity areas

Goal

- Empower the youth to take responsibility of their future by conserving natural resources and by acting responsibly in terms of their sexual and reproductive health behaviours

Program Objectives

- Increase youth awareness on PHE dynamics
- Increase awareness and support among LGUs for youth focused PHE approaches that empower young people with the know-how to contribute to sustainable development effort
- Develop and identify youth friendly PHE models
- Improve youth economic efficiencies through environmentally friendly livelihood/enterprise development opportunities (and skills) that are appropriate and appealing to youth

Youth Mobilization

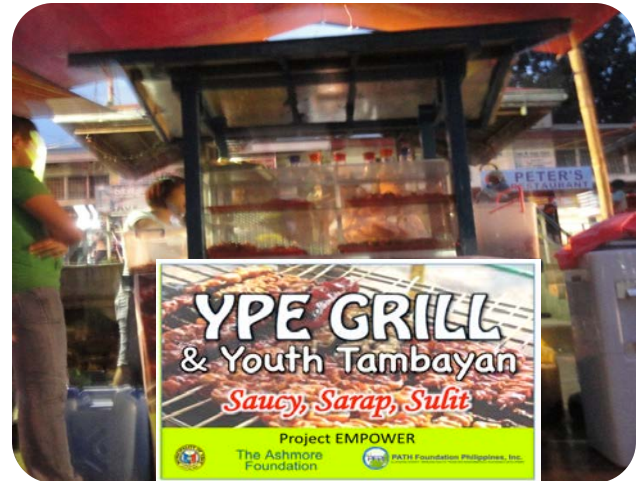


"Every teen has a dream but those who guard their sexuality and the environment have a brighter future"

Youth Participation in Local Governance



Environment-friendly enterprises



Key Results



- Trained 232 youth (aged 18-24 years) to serve as volunteer youth peer educators (YPE)
- Enhanced capacity of the youth in developing site-specific work plans promoting youth understanding and participation in local governance.
- 78 youths were trained on environment friendly enterprise development (EED) activities

Best Practices and Lessons Learned

- Encouraging youth to become “stewards of their sexuality and the environment ” is an alternative approach to abstinence promotion that appeals to youth in coastal communities
- Peer education approach affects desired changes in youth’s attitudes and practices regarding premarital sex and stewardship of their sexuality and the coastal environment.

Best Practices and Lessons Learned

- Engage parents of YPEs in the project effort. The support of parents is key to securing youth involvement and sustaining YPE volunteerism. Youth gain confidence in their ability to become a leader and agent of change because of the goodwill and affirmation of their parents.



Conclusion

- Exposing young people to information about PHE and food security dynamics and issues can be a powerful tool to stir their interest and commitment to care for the environment and become sexually responsible individuals.
- Providing livelihood skills training and opportunities to initiate environment-friendly micro-enterprises helped to reinforce their commitment to conservation work while enabling the youth to become economically productive members of society.

Thank You!





For more information
www.pfpi.org