

# A Philippine Journey to Sustainable Fisheries

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## ECOFISH . . .



.... aims to improve management of important coastal and marine resources and associated ecosystems that support livelihoods and economies

- ... is designed to:
- conserve biological diversity
- enhance ecosystem
   productivity
- restore profitability of fisheries in select marine key biodiversity areas (MKBA) using ecosystembased approaches to fisheries management



## ECOFISH . . .

5 year project implemented with the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR)



#### builds on BFAR/USAID **FISH Project** that demonstrated....

- fish decline can be arrested, if not reversed with management
- governance is key to success and sustainability of fisheries management
- ecosystems approach fisheries management (EAFM) can be successfully implemented to a certain governance scale



## **Lesson from FISH Project**

#### Annual landed catch (tons) in 4 municipalities in Danajon Bank (FISH Project 2010)

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Municipali	ties	2004	2	2006	2	008
Talibon		3,666	4	,940	4,6	644
<b>Bien Unido</b>		1,968	2	,626	4,4	126
Ubay		989	1	,729	1,4	128
C.P. Garcia	à	413	1	,571	1,8	373
TOTAL		7,037	10	,867	12,3	370
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- 7,037 mt (2004) 12,370 mt (2008): increase by 76%
- 690 (2004)- 1,600 (2008) kg/fisher/yr
- Equivalent to an increase of 19% per annum

Estimated annual landings (tons) of most often used fishing gears

Fishing gears	2004	2006	2008			
Increased harvest:						
Drift gillnet	522	992	2,070			
Hook and line	536	2,357	1,297			
Danish seine*	634	1,496	1,271			
Fish corral*	261	267	302			
Stationary liftnet*	8	79	253			
Round haul seine*	145	128	218			
Decreased						
harvest:						
Multiple handline	185	381	15			
Crab pot	137	150	64			
Bottom-set longline	288	502	125			
Bottom-set gillnet	726	546	484			
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\* Active and fine-meshed fishing gears



### **ECOFISH Key Results**

- 1. Increase in fish biomass across project sites.
- 2. Increase in number of people gaining employment or better employment from sustainable fisheries management.
- 3. Institute a national capacity development program to promote EAFM.
- 4. Enhance capacities of local government units in implementing EAFM.
- 5. Establish PPPs that support the objectives of ECOFISH









#### **Ecosystems Approach to Fisheries Management**

- ... is about managing fisheries at ecosystem scales rather than the scales defined by jurisdictional boundaries
- ... addresses the sustainability of ecosystems and not just the sustainability of target species
- ... provides governance mechanisms for the selected spatial scale









#### Key indicators and accomplishment (Midterm)

Performance Indicator	Percent accomplished
Number of EAFM training courses conducted	57
Number of policy studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA (national)	88
Number of strategic partnerships formally established and operating	62
Number of community partnerships actively engaged and mobilized	82
Number of hectares of municipal waters under improved management	55
Number of hectares of MPAs and network of MPAs established	94
Number of inter-LGU fisheries management plans developed	37
Number of LGUs that have achieved EAFM benchmark level 2 or higher	45



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ECOSYSTEMS IMPROVED FOR SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES (ECOFISH) Project







