annual report 2012





mission

An institution of excellence in sustainable fisheries management and services by 2016.

To improve fisheries productivity within ecological limits and empower stakeholders towards food security, inclusive growth global competitiveness and climate change adaptation.



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The production generated by the three sub-sectors of fisheries namely, aquaculture, municipal and commercial measures its performance in a given period of time. It is vital therefore that production support services are provided to ensure that targets are met.

1. Fish Seed Production and Distribution

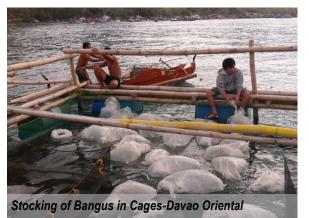
The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources operates eight commodity-specific national technology centers strategically located in different parts of the country. Aside from the national centers, the regional offices have their respective technology centers with their own specific function. What is common for these centers is their purpose of producing quality broodstock and fingerlings to ensure that stocks are available for LGUs, fisherfolk organizations and private individuals who would like to venture in fish production. The required supply for fingerling dispersal to communal bodies of water and seaweed seedlings distribution also comes from these government facilities.

While the BFAR maintains the technology centers, the long term plan of the agency is to capacitate the LGUs by giving technical assistance in the establishment of community-based hatcheries and thereby improving the availability of broodstocks and fingerlings at the community level. For this particular project component, the following are the 2012 accomplishments:

- Produced 3,510,179 pieces of broodstock and distributed 2,900,626 pieces.
- Produced 215.21 M fingerlings and distributed 174.94M.
- Produced 5,465,573 pieces freshwater prawn or "ulang" post larvae and distributed 2,280,261 pieces.
- Produced 86,430 kgs seaweed seedlings and distributed 65,606 kgs.
- Provided farm inputs and technical assistance to 30,964 beneficiaries comprised of fishfarmers, LGUs, among others.











Distribution of Gillnets by Secretary Proceso J. Alcala-Kabasalan, ZSP



-Brgy. Saluping, Tabuan Lasa, Basilan





Sur

2. Distribution of Fishing Gears and Paraphernalia

Marginal fisherfolk belongs to the municipal fisheries sector whose contribution to the country's total fish production in 2012 accounted for 26.37%. Aside from technical assistance on fishing technology, the national government in coordination with the local government units supports this sector through the distribution of passive and environment-friendly fishing gears/paraphernalia.

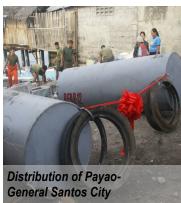
In 2012, there are 41,411 fishing gears distributed to 33,555 beneficiaries composed of marginal fisherfolk associations and cooperatives. Below is the breakdown of the distributed fishing gears:

■ 9,319 gillnets, 8,414 hook and lines, 3 lambaklad, 5,299 fishpots, 350 payaos, 600 squid jiggers, 63 motorized bancas, 548 non-motorized bancas, 813 marine engines,1,396 multiple handlines, 5,257 tuna handlines, 2,150 crab lift net and 1,632 crab pots, and 4,932 other fishing gears.

3. Input Assistance

The bulk of fisheries production in the Philippines is derived from the aquaculture sector which accounts for 52.32% of the output in 2012. This makes the country's fish supply highly dependent on aquaculture. It is important therefore for the government to provide this sector with interventions in the form of input assistance to propel its growth and ensure that both local and export demands are being addressed. Last year, the government provided 65.9 million fingerlings, 419,698 kgs of seaweeds seedlings, and 6,097 sets of seaweed farm to 10,581 beneficiaries.





4. Establishment/Maintenance of Seaweed **Nurseries**

The availability and accessibility of seaweeds seedlings are important factors in encouraging growers to expand their production areas. This will depend however on the establishment of seaweed nurseries located in strategic areas where the growers can easily avail of the supply. Hence, in 2012, the government through the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources established 36 seaweed nurseries nationwide (two in Region 2; thirteen in Region 3; three in Region 4a; one in Region 5; three in Region 6; six in Region 8; one in Region 9; two in Region 12; and four in Region ARMM) with a total of 219 beneficiaries.



The source of quality and affordable source of fingerlings is important in the establishment of a more profitable fish growing enterprise. It encourages private sectors to venture in the said business particularly in growing staple fish like bangus and tilapia. To support both small-scale and largescales bangus and tilapia growers, the government through the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources maintains bangus and tilapia hatcheries.

In 2012, BFAR maintained bangus hatcheries located at NIFTDC, Bonuan, Binloc, Dagupan City; Calape, Bohol; Sta. Lucia, Puerto Princesa, Palawan; Guiuan, Samar; and Sagay, Camiguin.









6. Maintenance of Mariculture Parks/Zones

Another government's well-defined sites for small scale, medium scale and large scale investments on fisheries are the mariculture parks. At present, the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources maintains a total of 65 mariculture parks serving as demonstration sites for prospective investors. While a number of these parks need rehabilitation, most of the sites continue to attract fisherfolk and private businessmen to engage into this venture.

The following are the mariculture zones/parks maintained and located in:

- Sto. Tomas and Rosario, La Union; Narvacan, Ilocos Sur; Sual, Pangasinan; Badoc, Ilocos Norte (Region I)
- Sta. Ana, Cagayan (Region II)
- Casiguran, Aurora (Region III)
- Padre Burgos Mariculture Zone (Region IV-A)
- Tagkawayan Mariculture Zone (Region IV-A)
- San Vicente and Quezon MZ, Palawan (Region IV-B)
- Sta. Cruz, Marinduque MZ (Region IV-B)
- Looc, Romblon (Region IV-B)
- San Jose City, Occidental Mindoro (Region IV-B)
- Calapan City MP, Oriental Mindoro (Region IV-B)
- Puerto Princesa MP, Narra MP, Coron MP, Palawan (Region IV-B)
- Ragay Mariculture Zone, Barangay Lower Omon, Ragay, and Sangay
 MZ, Camarines Sur (Region V) (for rehabilitation)
- Bacon MZ (*for rehabilitation*), Magallanes MZ (*for rehabilitation*)
- Sangay MZ (for rehabilitation), Ragay MZ (for rehabilitation), Masbate City MZ & Matnog MZ, Sorsogon City (Region V)
- Talibon MZ, Calape MZ, Maribojoc MZ, Candijay MZ, Mabini MZ, Bohol & Bais City MZ, Negros Oriental)(Region VII)
- Calbayog (*for rehabilitation*) & Basey, Western Samar; San Jose, Northern Samar; Liloan, So. Leyte; Ormoc City,
 Babatngon & Merida, Leyte; Sta. Rita and Quinapondan, Eastern Samar; Biliran and Naval (*for rehabilitation*), Biliran,
 Tacloban City and Leyte, Leyte, Sta. Rita, Samar, Naval, Biliran and Laoang, Samar (Region VIII).
- Margosatubig Mariculture Park, Zamboanga del Sur (Region IX)
- Tungawan MZ, Zamboanga Sibugay (Region IX)
- Taluksangay MP, Zamboanga City (Region IX)
- Mursilagos, Rizal MP, Zamboanga del Norte (Region IX)
- Dumalinao MP, Zamboanga del Sur (Region IX)
- Balingasag MZ, Misamis Oriental (Region X)
- Sultan Naga MP, Dimaporo, Lango del Norte (Region X)
- Lopez Jaena, Misamis Occidental (Region X)
- Kaputian, Island Garden City of Samal (IGACoS), Davao del Norte, Panabo MP, Davao del Norte (Region XI)
- Mati MP, Davao Oriental (Region XI)
- Pantukan MP, Compostela Valley (Region XI)
- Malita, Davao del Sur (Region XI)
- Dapa MP, Siargao Island, Surigao City MP, Surigao del Norte (Region XIII
- Barubo MP, Surigao del Sur (Region XIII)
- San Jose MP. Dinagat Province (Region XIII)
- Sibuto-Sitangkai MP, Panglima Sugala MP, Tawi-Tawi (ARMM)
- Siasi MP, Sulu (ARMM)





7. Conduct of Production-related Research Activities

The conduct of production-related research activities is another key activity in increasing production and export. Verification is needed before the dissemination of a particular fisheries technology. In 2012, there were

115 research and development projects conducted.

8. Operation and Management of M/V DA-BFAR Marine Fisheries Management, Research, Training and Oceanographic Vessel

Research and development projects of the bureau are not limited to aquaculture and municipal fisheries. The facility which is responsible for conducting research and development activities in the high seas is the M/V DA-BFAR Marine Fisheries Management, Research, and Training and Oceanographic vessel. Exploratory fishing activities in the unexplored fishing grounds of the Exclusive Economic Zone are likewise being covered by the vessel. In 2012, twenty-six 26 research and development projects were conducted while 599 oceanographic and fishing operations with 6 shipboard/apprenticeship trainings were conducted. The commercial fisheries sector is expected to benefit from the research and exploratory fishing results.





Techno-Demo Projects of Pangasius in Ponds in an Organic Farming System, Lucban





Production growth must be coupled with market development in order to include the products in the economic count. In line with this, the government must exert effort to link the producers to prospective markets through product promotion and market matching activities. The following are the 2012 accomplishments on market development services.



Marketing of fishery value- added products Yaman Gensan Exhibit 2012-General Santos City

WILCOME UNICH I NG DUAL FUNCTION DUAL FUNCTION FISHMART Launching of AP Fishmart -Luna, Apayao



1. Distribution of Market Matching and Participation to Agri-Aqua Fairs and Exhibits

Extended **391 market matching** activities; conducted **20 investment fora** with **57 MOA** signed/consummated; and participated to 152 agri-agua fairs and exhibits.

Conduct of Market-related Research Activities

5 research and development projects are ongoing.









The required formalities and the voluminous paper works to accomplish are one of the hindering factors which make both individual fisherfolk and cooperatives hesitant to avail loans being offered by financing institutions. This is one of the gaps the government has to fill in through the provision of credit facilitation services. With this particular line of service, the target clienteles are provided with the proper guidance they need in accomplishing the requirements for the credit facility they wish to avail of. Through this, the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources was able to assist **437 individuals** and **66 cooperatives** in preparing feasibility studies and project proposals.





The infrastructure that the government is initiating is geared towards increasing production and providing livelihood for the fisherfolk such as establishment of Mariculture Parks/Zones, cages for livelihood, among others. On the other hand, post-harvest development services are implemented to lessen production loss.







1. Establishment of Mariculture Parks/Zone

The following mariculture parks are scheduled for launching in ARMM:

- Languyan MP, Tawi-Tawi
- Panglima Tahil MP, Sulu

2. Establishment of Cages for Livelihood

488 cages for livelihood were established throughout the country.

3. Establishment/Maintenance of Seaweed Tissue Culture Laboratories

Ten seaweed culture laboratories were established/maintained in Region 1; Baler, Aurora (Region 3); Talipan, Pagbilao, Quezon (Region 4a); Sta. Lucia, Puerto Princesa, Palawan (Region 4-b); 2 in Region 5; Guiuan, Samar (Region 8); Zamboanga City (Region 9) and Masao, Butuan (Region 13); and ORG Compound, Cotabato City (ARMM).



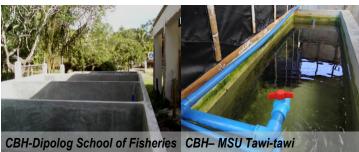
4. Establishment of Community-Based Hatcheries Multi-Species Hatcheries

155 community based multi-species hatcheries were established in several regions: Region CAR with fourteens hatcheries, Region 1 with six hatcheries, Region 2 with four, Region 3 with three, Region 4A with two, Region 4B with one, Region 5 with 8, Region 6 with 71, Region 7 with 14, Region 8 with 2, Region 9 with 7, Region 10 also with 7, Region 11 with ten and CARAGA with six hatcheries.

5. Distribution of Post Harvest Equipment/Machineries

705 various post-harvest equipment/machineries were distributed such as 38 smokehouses, 17 elevated fish solar dryer, 206 seaweed dryers, 49 freezers, 16 vacuum packer and 379 other post harvest equipment to 1,987 fisherfolk beneficiaries and 267 associations/cooperatives.





6. Post-Harvest Related Research

8 post-harvest related researches were conducted/ongoing.

7. Value-Added Products Formulation

47 value-added fishery products were formulated and improved.









The government invests on manpower in the fisheries sector through the provision of extension support, education and training services. Through this, fisherfolk and other private sector groups are able to benefit from trainings and technical assistance on various fishery technologies. Clienteles are educated and trained through the use of information, education and communication (IEC) materials and technology demonstration sites.

Furthermore, capacity building and strengthening activities are given to local Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Councils (FARMCs) in order to enhance the partnership with the fisherfolk sector, local government units (LGUs) and other stakeholders on fisheries management.



Seaweed Crop Management and Fish Preservation-Basilan Province



Hands on training on seaweeds culture-Zambales



Bangus Deboning for women fisherfolk -Brgy. Mabua, Surigao City



Hatchery Production & Grow-out Culture of Siganid-Asian Fisheries Academy



Techno-Demo on Fishpen in Maslabeng, Mangudadatu, Maguindanao



Techno-Demo on Fish Terraces in Tuba, Benguet

1. Provision of Training and Technical Assistance

- Conducted 1,331 training courses on aquaculture (tilapia, bangus, seaweeds), municipal, regulatory and post harvest technologies nationwide that benefited 40,045 participants (31,429 fisherfolk and 8,616 extension personnel).
- Provided 56,504 technical assistance and advisory services on aquaculture development and methods, marine fisheries management and conservation, fishing technologies, post-harvest technologies to 91,166 beneficiaries composed of fisherfolk, fishfarmers, LGUs, other NGAs and various stakeholders.

2. Establishment of Techno-Demo Projects

Established 1,511 techno-demo projects (1,127 BFAR and 384 cost-shared with LGUs) that showcased various fishery technologies such as pond culture technology, freshwater fish cage culture and fish polyculture with a total of 10,741 beneficiaries.

3. Project Launching and Conduct of Field Days

59 projects were launched while 76 field days were conducted. Region CARAGA inaugurated its Regional Fisherfolk Training Center.

4. Dissemination/Provision of IEC Materials

Reproduced, packaged and distributed 241,808 copies of fisheries information, education and communication (IEC) materials to create awareness and to promote the Bureau's programs and projects; 641 billboards were installed while 2,411 radio and TV plugs were aired to inform the public of the latest development/issues besetting fisheries.

5. Organization and Strengthening of FARMCs

- Assisted 411 FARMCs in strengthening.
- 921 FARMCs or 99 percent has been organized out of the 927 coastal municipalities/cities of the country. Likewise, 7,045 barangay FARMCs were also organized out of the 9,302 coastal barangays nationwide.

6. Fisheries Scholarship Program

Fisherfolk Children Educational Grant (FCEG)

One scholar graduated out of the 43 scholars for the 5th batch. As for the 6th batch, additional freshmen scholars that totaled to 156 were enrolled this school year.

7. Gender and Development (GAD)

The Bureau continuously supported GAD through active conduct and participation in various activities with focus on economic empowerment, gender responsive governance and women's rights.







Inauguration of Caraga's Fisherfolk's Training Center









The Bureau does not only seek to increase productivity but also ensures the sustainable use of the fishery resources. Appropriate policies and standards both at the national and local levels are being in place towards this end. Among the regulatory tools being used includes coastal resource management, and intensified inspection and laboratory services for securing fishery products competitiveness and safety.

1. Coastal Resource Management

- 321 Local Government Units (LGUs) were assisted on coastal resource management.
- 92 rapid resource assessments on fish sanctuaries were conducted while 209 fish sanctuaries were monitored.
- 65 artificial reefs were monitored and 1,661 artificial reef modules were deployed.
- 14,651,844 propagules were planted nationwide.

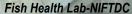
2. Red Tide Monitoring

On BFAR's commitment to safeguard public health, regular monitoring of the red tide phenomenon in critical bays is being sustained. 1,006 monitoring activities were undertaken to protect public health and 9,842 samples were analyzed.

3. Fish Health Management

- Maintained 34 fish health laboratories nationwide to address the need for disease diagnosis, prevention and treatment.
- Conducted ocular inspection, residue and aquatic animal disease surveillance, fish kill monitoring and investigations. Analyzed 4,441 fish/shrimp samples for residue and 9,777 samples for aquatic animal disease surveillance.
- 275 fish kill monitoring and investigations were conducted with 1,757 samples analyzed.







Fish Health Lab-BFAR 3





Mangrove Planting-Panglima Sugala, Tawi-Tawi



Mangrove Planting-Butuan City



Mangrove Planting-Panabo City



Apprehension of Taiwanese Fishing Vessels by BFAR-PCG MCS 3005 & 3009-Davao



BFAR XII MCS Team conducting a seaborne patrol in the waters of Mindanao



Confiscation of Abandoned Banned Marine Products Helmet Shell -Zamboanga City



Joint Fisheries Enforcement Te<mark>am-</mark>Naval Forces Western Mindanao Auditorium Naval Station Romulo Espaldon Bagong Calarian, Zamboanga City

4. Inspection of Fish Processing Plants

- Inspected, verified and monitored processing plants, including the processing establishments accredited as exporters. Conducted regular monthly plant inspections/audit to ensure compliance with the Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP)-based quality assurance, Standard Sanitary Operating Procedures Program (SSOP), and Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP).
- Conducted 65,696 inspections on fishing/freezer vessels, fish processing plants, buying/picking stations, fish port and landing areas, auction markets, ice plants and cold storages. 6,715 certificates and 41,031 commodity clearances were issued.

5. Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS)

- The MCS 14 patrol vessels are in their respective deployment areas with 253 field operations conducted.
- BFAR law enforcers conducted 332 field evaluations nationwide to curb illegal fishing in coordination with law enforcement authorities. For this year, 1,062 fish wardens were deputized.
- 520 operations were conducted by the BFAR Quick Response Team in its campaign against illegal fishing activities in the enforcement of RA 8550.

6. Operation/Maintenance of the Cyanide Detection Test (CDT) Laboratories

Maintained cyanide laboratories in Puerto Princesa, Zamboanga City, Cebu City and Manila in order to detect the presence of cyanide in tissues of live food and aquarium fishes with a total of 1,776 samples analyzed. While 296 certificates/analysis were issued.



DA Secretary Proceso Alcala on-board DA-BFAR MCS 3004 during his visit in Siargao Island

7. Operation of Quality Assurance Laboratories

Operated/maintained fisheries quality control laboratories in Quezon City, Cebu City, Iloilo City, Davao City, General Santos City and Zamboanga City to address existing problems on quality assurance program on fish export. 8,478 samples were analyzed for chemical and microbiological examinations.

8. Inland Fisheries Management

Dispersed a total of 41.477 million tilapia and carp fingerlings to 814 communal waters to replenish the stock of depleted resources for the benefit of municipal fisherfolk throughout the country.

9. National Stock Assessment Program (NSAP)

Conducted surveys in 175 landing centers or observation sites.

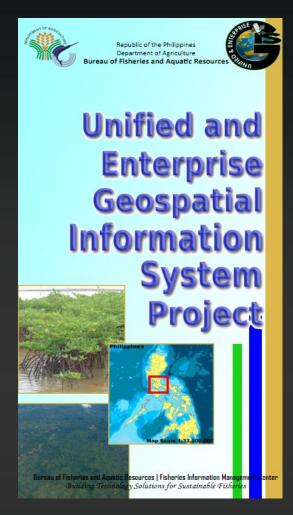
10. Issuance of Regulatory Documents

Issued 142,196 regulatory documents such as Fishpond Lease Agreements (FLAs), Commercial Fishing Vessel/Gear Licenses, Fishermen Licenses, Clearances, Permits, etc.











information Support Services

- Continuous operation and maintenance of the BFAR Fisheries Information Management Center (FIMC) and the Regional FIMCs.
- 6,770,375 reports/data were downloaded (website hits, downloaded files and public inquiries).
- The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources implemented the Unified and Enterprise Geospatial Information System Project on February 1, 2012 through the Fisheries Information Management Center (FIMC), as an Information Technology Center of BFAR and the overall coordinator in the conduct of the Project activities. The Project with an 18-month implementation period covers 46 Philippine provinces of the 15 identified regions. The project conducts coastal resource mapping activities on the coastal municipalities of the project areas.

policy formulation, planning advocacy services

INFOFISH GOVERNING COUNCIL

Twenty-seventh Session

The Bureau formulates, integrates and packages fisheries plans and programs for the utilization, management, development and conservation of fisheries and aquatic resources.

1. Policy Formulation

The following were approved for implementation:

- FAO No. 238 Rules and Regulations Governing the Implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No. 1005/2008 on the Catch Certification Scheme was recommended by the BFAR Director and approved by the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture
- Fisheries General Memorandum Order No. 001-A Amending Fisheries Memorandum Order No. 001, Series of 2011 on the Pre and Post Border Requirements in the Application of SPS Clearance for Importation of Fish/Fishery Products from Japan

2. Conduct Meetings/Consultations and Workshops

Meetings/consultations and workshops were conducted to address issues and concerns regarding project implementation.

3. Promotion of Regional and International Cooperation in Fisheries

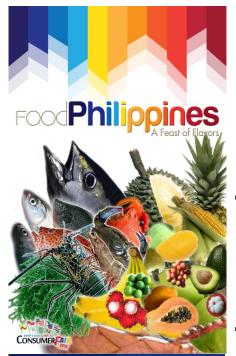
- BIMP-EAGA Natural Resources Development (NRD) Cluster
 Participation in the following BIMP-EAGA 2012 activities:
 - BIMP-EAGA Food Cluster Meeting on January 10, 2012 at the ADB Headquarters, Mandaluyong City, Metro Manila
 - 2012 BIMP-EAGA Strategic Planning Meeting (SPM), January 11-12, 2012
 - Organized, coordinated 8 regular meetings of the P-EAGA Natural Resources Development Cluster for CY 2012 in collaboration with the Mindanao Development Authority and the Department of Agriculture – Region 9
 - Workshop on Commodities and Quarantine Measure in BIMP-EAGA and the 7th BIMP-EAGA CIQS Task Force Meeting, May 7-11, 2012 in Balikpapan, East Kalimantan, Indonesia
 - Special Meeting for the Discussion of the Clusters Terms of Reference (TOR) and Implementation Blueprint (IB) 2012-1016, July 17-18, 2012, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah



Formulation of FAO No. 243 entitled "Guidelines on the Environmentally Sound Culture of Pangasius"-Tagaytay City







- Inter-agency meetings between DA-AMAs, DA Regional Offices, BFAR Central Offices and Regional Offices (Mindanao-Palawan with DTI, CITEM regarding Philippine participation to the BIMP-EAGA IMT-GT Consumer Fair.
- BIMP-EAGA Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT) Consumer Fair, November 30 to December 2, 2012 in Melaka, Malaysia. BIMP-EAGA is a major initiative in ASEAN that creates expansion of economic cooperation among the border areas of Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines. The Consumer Fair features approximately 300 exhibitors of unique products from the sub-regions' member countries where BFAR sponsored 20 booths and with 116 participants from the Philippines.
- Fisheries Joint Committee under the MOU on Bilateral Cooperation in the Fields of Fisheries between the government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam
 - BFAR Philippine delegation (6 members) headed by Director Asis G. Perez participated in the 2nd Meeting of the Fisheries Joint Committee under the Philippines-Vietnam MOU on Bilateral Cooperation in the Field of Fisheries on August 2-3, 2012 in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
- Intergovernmental Organization for Marketing Information and Technology Advisory Services for Fishery Products in the Asian Pacific Region (INFOFISH)
 - Organized and hosted the 27th Session of the INFOFISH Governing Council on November 27-30, 2012 in Manila which was attended by 28 participants from 14 member countries.



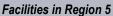
- Western and Central Pacific Fisheries
 Commission (WCPFC) 9th Regular Session
 Organized and hosted the WCPFC meetings as follows:
- Management Options Workshop (MOW) –
 November 28-29, 2012, PICC (300 participants)
- Financial and Administrative Committee
 Meeting (FAC) December 1, 2012, PICC (150 participants)
- Head of the Delegations Meeting (HOD)
 December 1, 2012, PICC (100 participants)
 WCPFC 9th Regular Session, December 2-6,
- 2012 at PICC which was attended by 650 delegates from 43 member countries (government and private sector. WCPFC sought to address problem in the conservation and management of high seas fisheries or highly migratory fish stocks.

December 2-6, 2012

PICC, Manila, Philippines

4. Monitoring and Evaluation of BFAR Projects

Regular monitoring and evaluation of BFAR's Programs and Projects were conducted which includes field/site visits
of the facilities and projects established in the regions.









Community Based Hatcheries in ARMM









events to remember fish

isn Conservation Week



The Stage



The Paintings that captivated the judges



The Mass



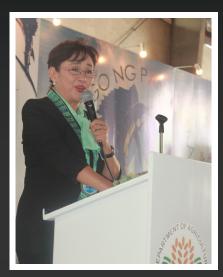
Director Asis G. Prerez



With DA-ASEC Salvador Salacup and PCA Administrator Euclides Forbes



Awarding of Token of Appreciation



Batangas Governor Vilma Santos-Recto



The Director & the Governor



The winners of Painting and Essay Writing Contests



Launching of ECOFISH



DA-Secretary Proceso J. Alcala



Book Launching of FLAs with Dr. Joan G. Ferrer of UPV



Marine Key Biodiveristy Areas (MKBA) of ECOFISH



Press Conference on ECOFISH



Fisheries Policy and Economics Division (FPED)

Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
PCA Compound, Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City

Photos courtesy of BFAR Regional Offices, BFAR-Centers, RFTCs, NFRD1 and IPRG