



CCAUSE FOR A GOOD CAUSE

CASE WRITER: Marisol D. Tuson, Institutions and Gender Officer
Organization: Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
Fisheries, Coastal Resources and Livelihood (FishCORAL) Project
Region 13 / Caraga
Email: itmaglinte@gmail.com and rmbabes2004.fishcoral@gmail.com

Background

The Coastal Community Alliance for Sustainable Ecosystems (CCAUSE) is a union between municipalities of Linga-Hinatuan-Bislig Bays in Caraga. The coastal alliance, which is composed of 10 local government units (LGUs), aims to manage the aquatic and fishery resources of the said covered areas in a bay-wide approach. Every member-LGU is given jurisdiction to responsibly manage, conserve, develop, protect, utilize, and dispose all fish and fishery/aquatic resources within their respective municipal waters in order to facilitate the management as a single resource system. It also encourages the consolidation and/or coordination of the members' efforts, services, and resources for purposes commonly beneficial to them.

With the revitalization of the CCAUSE on September 2017, the alliance immediately target the arising concern on massive collection of lobster fry in the covered communities and have the Management Board approved and ruled out a resolution for member-LGUs to adapt unified template for an ordinance regulating extraction, selling, and marketing of lobster and crablets.

CCAUSE has already passed and approved 14 resolutions including the reactivation and strengthening of the Fishery and Law Enforcement Team (FLET) of every member-LGU for bay-wide fishery law enforcement.

Innovations / Good Practices

CCAUSE member-LGUs agreed to forge a Memorandum of Agreement consistent with Section 16 of the Local Government Code which provides that every local government unit shall exercise the powers expressly granted, those necessarily implied therefrom, as well as powers necessary, appropriate, or incidental for its efficient and effective governance, and those which are essential to the promotion of the general welfare.

The CCAUSE Management Board has passed and approved resolutions that will ensure the smooth execution and active participation of the member-LGUs and its constituents. Below are the following resolutions:

- ✓ *Resolution 01, series of 2007 requesting all LGUs to allocate a minimum appropriation of Ph100,000.00 as support for CCAUSE;*
- ✓ *Resolution 01 series of 2008, adapting the Book 1 of the Manual of Operations;*
- ✓ *Resolution 02 series of 2008, requesting BFAR to craft a MOA between CCAUSE and identified BGAs, NGOs, and POs;*

- ✓ *Resolution 03 series of 2008, adapting that a common template be created for all member LGUs to enact an ordinance in the extraction, selling and marketing of lobster and crablets in the CCAUSE areas, and requesting the Technical Working Group of BFAR to craft the said ordinance, and ;*
- ✓ *Resolution 04 series of 2008 requesting BFAR to facilitate the reactivation and strengthening of the Fishery and Law Enforcement Team (FLET) of every member LGU in the CCAUSE for bay-wide fishery law enforcement.*

Status

Originally, CCAUSE is organized by few LGUs of Lianga Bay under the Sustainable Management of Coastal Resources (SUMACORE) Project in 2010 but no follow through activities as it is launched when the Project is about to end. In 2017, the Fisheries, Coastal Resources and Livelihood (FishCORAL) Project forefronts series of consultation leading to the reorganization of the CCAUSE.

Today, CCAUSE Management Board has been conducting monthly meeting to address key issues confronting the Lianga-Hinatuan-Bislig Bays. The meeting has always been in quorum, which shows significant participation by all member-LGUs.

Facilitating Factors / Challenges

CCAUSE is unable to reach its maturity of operation the first time it is organized. The biggest challenge for the BFAR and FishCORAL Project as well as the member-LGUs is to ensure the continuous operation of the alliance that mandates to sustainably manage the coastal resources thereby generating livelihood prospects for the covered communities.

Impact

A total of 150,046 coastal population and 9,685 fishing households in the Lianga-Hinatuan-Bislig Bays will benefit in the regeneration of CCAUSE. Also, it targets to aid 18,160 registered fisherfolk in different interventions such as livelihood and enterprise development, environmental protection, community organizing and development, and coastal and resource management.

To guarantee sustainability of CCAUSE, a resolution has been approved for member-LGUs to pass an appropriation ordinance for the annual contribution of Php 100,000 for its operation expenditures.

Policy/Programme/Cooperation Implication:

CCAUSE Management Board has considered convergence of programs and services with national government agencies, non-government organizations, and civil society organizations such as the People's Organizations. The Board requested the assistance of BFAR-XIII in drafting a Memorandum of Agreement with these agencies and organizations.

Available documentation:

"Coastal Community Alliance for Sustainable Ecosystems (CCAUSE): A case study" is available in English language.