

# Abstract

## SESSION 1:

A Decade of Partnerships in Sustainable Development of the Seas of East Asia: Synergies and Achievements

## WORKSHOP 1.3:

Coastal and Ocean Governance in the Seas of East Asia: from Nation to Region

## Panel Session 2: Partnerships for Win-Wins towards Achieving the SDGs Zamboanga Experience

### Roberto Baylosis

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The private sector industry of Zamboanga has formally started to collaborate with SSME through the Sulu Celebes Sea Sustainable Fisheries Management Project which identified Zamboanga City as the demonstration site.

In order to facilitate and implement effectively the activities of the SCS-SFMP, an Inter-Agency Site Committee was officially formed in May of 2011, which include representatives from the sardine industry, local governments units, and the academe. The private sector, through the Demonstration Site Committee, has worked closely with the project particularly in the mobilization and implementation of project activities in Zamboanga City.

Among the major output of the project is the Regional Strategic Action Programme on the Unsustainable Exploitation of Fish, which has been formulated with inputs from the private sector of Zamboanga, who participated in the various workshops that tried to find options or solutions to address the root causes of the transboundary problem on unsustainable exploitation of fish.

The initial implementation of the RSAP has greatly helped in providing a science-based management intervention in the sardine industry of Zamboanga. The conduct of the research on sardine stocks and its seasonality (biological study) has affirmed the need to implement a close season fishing of sardines, which is the biggest industry in the city. Moreover, the RSAP has helped in increasing awareness of local stakeholders on the need to manage and conserve marine resources through the intensive Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) campaigns called Save the Sardines.

On the implementation of the action plan, it is a big challenge to convince the stakeholders on the implementation of Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS), particularly on the enforcement of Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) which has affordability issues for the stakeholders. Also the gathering of accurate data, even after the SCS-SFM Project, that will reflect the actual status of resources of sardines needs to be maintained to ensure that science based fisheries management is sustained.

In order to strengthen the roles of business association in the implementation of SSME action plans, continued involvement in the activities towards resource management and conservation is proposed. Private sectors are also willing to engage in cost sharing schemes to facilitate capability building activities and IEC campaigns.



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## Global Targets Local Benefits

Setting the Sustainable Development Agenda for the Seas of East Asia beyond 2015

## **About Roberto Baylosis:**

Born on November 30, 1948, Roberto A. Baylosis hails from Kling, Sarangani Province, Philippines.

Nicknamed "Boy" while in elementary school, he occasionally joined his father onboard an outrigger canoe, fishing for big eyed scad. He, at times, shared efforts in the construction and deployment of primitive aggregating devices. Due to his passion of fishing, he opted to discontinue his college studies and greatly considered the benefits and opportunities he enjoyed during the summertime, and later as a regular fishing crew member. Working with a foreign trainer onboard, he gained experience in squid fishing, tuna long line fishing, shrimps trawl fishing, and tuna and sardine purse seine fishing. He had several land based jobs in different fishing companies which resulted in his gaining experience in managing, and fishing operations. In 2001, he became an adviser for operators mostly engaged in purse seine fishing under the Southern Philippines Deep Sea Fishing Assn. Inc., of Zamboanga City. He would eventually become the Executive Vice President of the association.

In 2005, he decided to solely serve the association, and has continued to do so till present. In the course of his time there, he has spearheaded the advocacy work for conservation, and proper management of the sustainability of sardine resources in the East Sulu Sea. In 2011, a CLOSE FISHING regulation was established, and gained positive results in sustaining the sardine fish stock, becoming a model in the Country's conservation measures.