

Abstract

SESSION 2:

Accelerating Actions for Sustainable Development and Climate Change

WORKSHOP 2.1:

Scaling up ICM: Innovations and Impacts at Local, National and Regional Levels

Experiences, Good Practices and Lessons Learned in MPA (Marine Protected Areas)/MPA Networking in the Coral Triangle

Porfirio M. Alino

Professor
The Marine Science Institute
University of the Philippines
Quezon City, Philippines



The Philippines has the most number of MPAs although the areal extent of protection remains in question and discussions prevail as to the lessons learned especially on the effectiveness from the whole experience. It is important to understand that a triage approach is insufficient in developing countries with high population densities, wherein multiple objectives have to be considered as part of a systematic approach in MPA planning and implementation. In the Coral Triangle Region, distilling this wealth of knowledge and practice that has been tried and elucidated remains appropriate to yet again try to do this from a different lens in the Philippine context. This approach may be useful to see how an integrated synthesis can be derived in the theory and practice of MPA and how their varied manifestations play out in the pursuit of various paths of sustainable development. While a review using various CTI country MPA analyses of lessons, their local perspectives within each country would vary. Elucidating their indicative measures of progress to explain how the various capacities, threats and available information on their governance, ecological and social-economic states results into varied outputs and outcomes.

We share various MPA tools in assessing how far targets can be achieved albeit concerns on their shifting baselines. Learning from the applications of principles on MPA networks, their appropriate organizational development and alliance configurations of LGU (Local Government Units) on CRM (Coastal Resources Management) with MPA/MPA networks as an entry to various spatial and temporal considerations. These good practices are indicative why we should ACT NOW [1. Accelerate actions; 2. Continue coordinated connectedness; 3. Threat reduction to prevent reaching tipping points; 4. Network design libraries; 5. Organizational development adaptations, and 6. Win-win / win-lose incentives] strategies to address the imperatives in the region.



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About Porfirio M. Alino:

Dr. Porfirio M. Aliño works as a marine ecologist investigating the nature of patterns and processes in coral reefs and associated ecosystems. He is a Professor at the University of the Philippines Marine Science Institute (UPMSI) and has been accepted as an Academician in the National Academy of Science and Technology of the Philippines. His scientific contributions in producing over 60 scientific and technical publications, is matched with his keen sense of citizenship and service to the local and global community. He was recognized by the International Society for Reef Studies (ISRS) for his capacity development work in the region at the 12th International Coral Reef Symposium (ICRS) last 2012 in Australia. He has been recognized as one of the outstanding Alumnus of James Cook University, Queensland, Australia in 2013. He has been an instrumental element in the establishment and coordination of the Philippine Coral Reef Network (PhilReefs) in 1997 that eventually evolved into a community of practitioners on Marine Protected Areas (MPA) through the MPA Support Network (MSN). MSN provides incentives for good practices through the biannual MPA Awards and Recognition (Para el MAR) Event.