

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



Hardin Sang Balo of Mt. Kanlaon
Natural Park, Negros Occidental



PhilBio

Biodiversity in Action

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Cover:

Hardin Sang Balo of Mt. Kanlaon Natural Park, Negros Occidental
Photo by: Plaridel Tison

Lisa J. Paguntalan, Christian R. Casio, Philip Godfrey C. Jakosalem,
Andrew Ross T. Reintar, and Girlie Mangilimutan. 2022 PhilBio Annual
Report. Philippines Biodiversity Conservation Foundation, Inc. 2023.

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PENRO Negros Occidental

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Message from the PhilBio Board

The year ended with yet another set of significant milestones in biodiversity conservation. The extremely challenging environment did not deter PhilBio team who managed to cope, adapt and held ground against the impact of covid-19.

Partnerships was pivotal in the successful implementation of the projects. We launched new projects, opened new sites and continued to do our surveys. Our partner communities continued to guard our forests and our precious biodiversity from threats that arose due to increased contact between wildlife and humans.

Securing unprotected forests, assisting local government units in increasing their investments in biodiversity and approaches in communication were designed to influence attitudes and behaviours that are key to addressing conservation problems.

We thank everyone who contributed to saving the Philippines' biodiversity. Our utmost appreciation to our community partners, donors and volunteer group and to everyone who inspired us to deliver better.

PhilBio received grants and awards for its excellent contributions to biodiversity. Donations from partners also increased as we remain committed in delivering better conservation results.

All these were made possible because of the strong support of the partnerships. We are also thankful that we have a dedicated and passionate team. The commitment of our technical and administrative team enabled PhilBio to implement its vision, mission and goals as envisioned by its founder, William L.R. Oliver. PhilBio remains accountable to the continuing support of the partners as we strive to further raise the conservation standard for the benefit of the future generations of Filipinos.

Madamo guid nga salamat.

Message from the Executive Director

The year 2022 opened with great excitement as we are all finally going back to the outdoors and meeting our partners face to face. It was the right time to expand into areas with high biodiversity and needs the greatest conservation attention. PhilBio also took the opportunity to renew and rebuild ties with partners in Luzon, Visayas, Mindanao and Tawi-Tawi after the long period of work from home scheme.

In line with PhilBio's vision and mission, the 2022 projects and activities focused on species, ecosystems and people. The education and awareness activities remains an important part in communicating PhilBio's vision and objectives. Strengthening our areas of focus and expanding to conservation sites of interest through partnerships were key in achieving our biodiversity targets

The **USAID INSPIRE grant** and the partnership with **UNDP BioFinancing (BioFin) Project** of the Biodiversity Management Bureau of DENR boosted up everyone's spirit as we can now pursue our goal of securing unprotected forests on Negros and Panay. This was also taken as an opportunity to expand in number of personnel. Three new personnel were added to augment the technical and administrative demands of PhilBio.



Lisa J. Paguntalan
Executive Director

Strong organization - PhilBio scored 3.79 out of 4 from the Non-US organization Pre-Award Survey (NUPAS) of the USAID Grant. It means PhilBio has sufficient systems in place, capabilities and readiness to partner with USAID and effectively implement an assistance award.

PhilBio also received an award from the Provincial Government of Negros Occidental for its excellent contributions to biodiversity. Donations from partners also increased as we remain committed in delivering better conservation results. All these were made possible because of the strong support of the partners, volunteers, donors, friends, family and most importantly to the commitment of our dedicated and passionate technical team and very supportive Board Members. We persevere and remain accountable as we strive to further raise the conservation standards for the benefit of the future generations of Filipinos.

OUR VISION

The long-term conservation of the Philippines' native and endemic wildlife and natural habitats for the benefit of future generations of all peoples who may inhabit and share the natural resources of the country.

OUR MISSION

To enhance and enable the conservation of the Philippines unique and threatened environment, biodiversity and natural resources into perpetuity, through the establishment of integrated biodiversity conservation and development programs that include conservation breeding, dissemination of knowledge, management practices and the active participation and collaboration of relevant stakeholders, particularly those who are dependent upon the natural resources of the region.



2022 AT A GLANCE

- Mt. Kanlaon
- Alamada, North Cotabato
- Tapaz, Capiz
- Mt. Banahaw, Tayabas
- Silay, Zamboanga Sibugay
- Codcod, San Carlos City
- Balinsasayao Twin Lakes
- Apo Island

7 areas assessed

500 total individuals count during the Mt. Banahaw BMS

- 1 Luzon Bleeding-heart pigeon
- 5 Amethyst Brown Dove
- 65 Colasisi
- 14 Tarictic Hornbill
- 2 Rufous Coucal
- 1 Indigo-banded Kingfisher
- 14 White-browed Shama

7 threatened species recorded

30-40 Golden-crowned flying fox

40,000-50,000

flying foxes population in North Cotabato

5,140 highest waterbird count recorded in Cadiz City on 2022

63 schools participated during the 17th Provincial Wildlife Quiz
27 cities and municipalities

1st National Flying Fox Forum

3.79 score (over 4) on NUPAS Evaluation

3.5M PhilBio and UNDP-BMB for Finance Solutions in Negros Island

1st assessment in Libungan River Watershed Forest Reserve
14 new distribution records

- Recorded
- 127 bird
 - 10 mammals
 - 16 herpetofauna
 - 155 plants

268 plant species recorded during the MKNP Botanical Exploration

- 113 seed plants
- 58 ferns and fern allies
- 76 mosses
- 21 liverworts

555,000-600,000

population of flying foxes emerged in Silay, Zamboanga Sibugay

10,000 + stakeholders reached through conservation education and awareness

Ph 160,000

donation from students, artists from Cebu, Born to be Wild of GMA 7 and individuals

2 PhilBio researches published in international journals

3 new PhilBio staff

Christian R. Casio
Kahlael Omero
Erika Lobaton

16M grant for the three unprotected forests in Western Visayas



BIODIVERSITY RESEARCH, SURVEY AND MONITORING

 Simagwan River, Mt.
Kanlaon Natural Park

Botanical Exploration of Mt. Kanlaon Natural Park

The Mt. Kanlaon Natural Park in Negros Island is a popular destination of trekkers and hikers for its high elevation at 2,454 meters above sea level, and to hobbyists and enthusiasts for its panoramic views from the skies to the seas. On July 2022, the team led by Shiella Mae Olimpos, a student of Master in Science at the University of North Carolina – Wilmington (UNCW), PhilBio and botanists, wildlife biologists and foresters from the academe, LGUs and DENR, conducted an 8-day botanical expedition and training within the rich forests of MKNP. The botanical expedition recorded a diverse flora: 113 seed plants, 58 ferns and fern allies, 76 mosses and 21 liverwort species.



113
seed
plants



58
ferns &
fern
allies



76
mosses



21
liverworts

Building capacity - The exploration was also taken as an opportunity to train and provide experience to Filipino botanists, plant ecologists and taxonomist in the country. Representatives from Silliman University, Negros Oriental State University, Mindanao State University, University of the Philippines - Mindanao, University of the Philippines - Manila, University of San Carlos, DENR 7 Regional Office, San Carlos City CEMO and local community guides participated in the training. In addition, the exploration was also a chance to update the database on the listing and documentation on the present wildlife and natural resources of MKNP for its further protection and conservation.

Hardin sang Balo - One of the sites during the expedition was the Hardin Sang Balo (Widow's Garden), the inactive crater located at around 2,000 masl. Since the crater forms a basin, the area serves as rainwater catchment that regulates water flow and slowly release them over period of months during the dry season. However, the area was also observed to possess qualifications as peatland ecosystem which can be the first montane peatland in the country.



Botanical exploration team of Hardin sang Ball of Mt. Kanlaon Natural Park

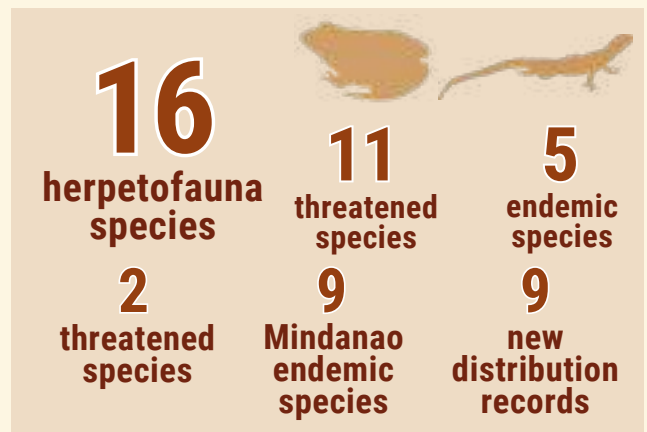
Wild Expedition in Western Mindanao

New records, high biodiversity, an enthusiastic team, and a promising landscape worth protecting for. This briefly describes the full-week assessment at Libungan River Watershed Forest Reserve last October 2022.

Considered as a megadiverse island, Mindanao is also a biodiversity hotspot as a high proportion of threatened species are found on the island. Though there is the famous Mt. Apo Natural Park within North Cotabato, the Libungan River Watershed Forest Reserve contains large tracts of forests that is situated in western Mindanao right in between the sub-biogeographic zones of northern and southern Mindanao makes it unique between the other forests in the region. LRWFR is an initial component of protected areas system in the Philippines but there is very little information known about its biodiversity.

A total of 127 species of birds where 77 (61%) are endemic species. 29 are classified as threatened under the DENR DAO No. 2019-09 was recorded in LRWFR. New distribution records for five species, including the Mindanao highland scops owl, Southern silvery kingfisher, and Mindanao serin.

A total of seven species of bats (two families) were recorded during the survey, 86% of which are endemic including the Philippine pygmy fruit bat, Greater musky fruit bat and Harpy fruit bat. Moreover, evidences of presence of the Philippine warty pig and the Mindanao squirrel were also encountered. The Philippine brown deer was also reported by locals.



Survey Team of LRFWR from DENR-CENRO Midsayap and PhilBio



A total of 16 species (10 families) of herps were recorded, 11 were amphibians (five families) and five were reptiles (five families). Overall, 13 of the 16 species are endemic including nine Mindanao biogeographic region endemic species. Two species are categorized as threatened (OTS) under DENR DAO 2019-09, the Mindanao fanged frog and *Bronchocela* sp. Significantly, nine of the 16 species (57%) of herps recorded from the survey were new distribution records of these species.

For plants, a total of 155 vascular plant species (46 plant families) were initially identified and recorded in LRWFR. The family Orchidaceae was the most well-represented family with 25 genera and 47 species, while the genus *Calanthe* recorded the most species (eight). Of all the identified plants, 19 were Philippine endemics and seven were Mindanao endemics.

A considerable area of forest adjacent to the boundaries of the proposed LRWFR protected area was home to several threatened endemic species and was part of the overall landscape ecosystem of LRWFR. The forest is under the jurisdiction of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (BARMM). Protection and conservation of the LRWFR should include this forest and the entire lake systems. Both ecosystems are connected and linked ecologically and the conservation of LRWFR protects the water the LGUs and communities depend on the protective cover of the mountain range from storms and heavy flooding.



Some of the endemic species recorded in LRWFR. Left - Apo Myna *Goodfellowia miranda*, center - Mindanao litter frog *Leptobrachium lumadum*, right - *Hoya apoensis*

Flora and Fauna Survey of Capiz: Tapaz

Three hours away from the heart of Tapaz, Capiz lies Barangay Tabon. Surrounded with steep and difficult terrain covered with extensive grasslands with thin line of riverine forests that connects to the Central Panay Mountain Range.

A total of seventy-six (76) vascular plant species were recorded. A total of 50 species were native while 18 were Philippine endemics. Three new records were added to the flora of Panay as result of the recent survey, namely: *Habenaria aristulifera*, *Habenaria robinsonii* and *Crepidium quadridentatum*.

The forest of Tabon was also home to a diverse birds, bats, reptiles, and amphibians. A total of 51 bird species were recorded of which 24 were endemic species including eight West Visayas restricted-range species. Records of five threatened species under the DAO 2019-09: Critically Endangered Blue-naped parrot, Southern indigo-banded kingfisher, and Visayan tarictic hornbill; the Vulnerable Visayan flowerpecker and Visayan scops-owl were also recorded. There were also records of five mammals and 12 species of herps (eight reptiles and four amphibians), seven of which were endemic species including the Vulnerable Visayan fanged frog.

The secluded Brgy. Tabon has already been invaded by invasive and alien species. *C. odorata* was common in open areas. The Common green frog and the invasive Chinese softshell turtle are considered as invasive and alien species (IAS) and pose a serious threat to the native and endemic wildlife in the area.

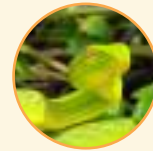
The denuded landscape along steep ravines recorded a **very low species diversity**. Without trees, very few species thrives. The impact of loss of **trees and forests can be felt** where with just a few minutes of strong downpour and heavy **rains, the river floods and to some extent cuts commuties from access with support from the town of Tapaz. Rehabilitation** of the forestland would help rebuild back **the ecosystem services of the forest**.



51 birds
5 threatened



5 mammals



12 herpetofauna



76 plants
18 Philippine endemic

Tapaz Survey Team from CapENRO,
Capiz State University, and PhilBio
with local guides

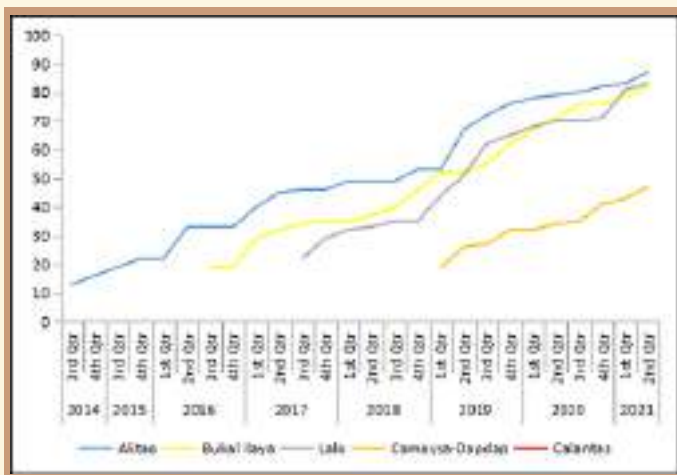


Synchronized BMS and Hornbill Count: Mt. Banahaw de Tayabas

A total of 54 species with the total population of 500 individuals had been recorded, wherein 37 were endemic and 17 were resident species. Based on the DENR DAO No. 2019-09, 6 species were listed that fell under the categories of Critically Endangered, Vulnerable and Other Threatened Species. The declared critically endangered are Amethyst brown dove, Indigo Banded Kingfisher and Colasisi, while the vulnerable are the Tarictic Hornbill, White Browed Shama and the Luzon Bleeding Heart Pigeon. Lastly, the Rofous Coucal falls under the category of Other Threatened Species.

A total of 27 females and 36 males from the members of Tanod Pamayanan ng Tayabas Para sa Kalikasan (TAPAT Kalikasan) of Barangays Lalo, Alitao, Bukal Ilaya, Camaysa, Dapdap and Calantas, together with the DENR-PAMO-MBSCPL, the City Environment and Natural Resources Office staffs and PhilBio (83 in total), participated the synchronized Community - Based Biodiversity Monitoring System of Mt. Banahaw de Tayabas.

The synchronized BMS has not only provided extensive data, it also capacitated the community and allowed them to be aware on the current status of their environment. The results of this activity was used by the Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) and the LGU for better the management of the protected area.



Species Accumulation of Birds in Mt. Banahaw De Tayabas BMS Sites since 2014.



Brgy. Calantas, Tayabas Survey Team

76 Community Volunteers from 6 Barangays

54 Bird Species Recorded

37 endemic species

500 individuals counted

Counts of threatened species

1 Luzon Bleeding-heart Pigeon

5 Amethyst Brown Dove

65 Colasisi

14 Tarictic Hornbill

2 Rufous Coucal

1 Indigo banded Kingfisher

14 White browed Shama

Results indicated that the local community's ability to detect, record and identify birds were improving (see graph above) The number of species identified is still increasing and has not yet reached a plateau, meaning, it is expected that as the effort (number of surveys) increase, more species are likely to be detected. As more trainings and continuing monitoring activities are done, we can also expect an increase in the number of species detected over time.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

CITIZEN SCIENCE COUNT BIRDS in BTLNP

The PAMO of BTLNP with participants from the Peoples Organization BTLFAI, PhilBio, Negros Oriental State University Biology Dept., UPLB, SUCENTROP, SU Biology Dept., Environment and Natural Resources Division of NegOr, NegOr Provincial Tourism Office, and Conservation Development Division of DENR R7 in successfully conducting the 2-day Biodiversity Monitoring System (BMS) / Hornbill Count for Dry-Season of CY 2022.



29 participants

9 agencies, institutions, organizations, offices



BTLNP BMS Monitoring Team Group 2 with Negros Oriental Provincial Tourism, Silliman University, PhilBio and BTLNP-PAMO

Biodiversity Monitoring System for Wet Season in AIPLS



140-150
individuals of
Island Flying Fox



54
individuals of
Pied Imperial
Pigeon

The Biodiversity Monitoring System (BMS) for wet season was conducted by the joint monitoring team of the AIPLS personnel and wardens and PhilBio on August 25-26, 2022. About 120-130 population of Island Flying-fox (*Pteropus hypomelanus*) were recorded roosting in Kan-uran. On the second day, a higher estimate were recorded between 140-150 individuals. A total of 23 species of birds were also identified.



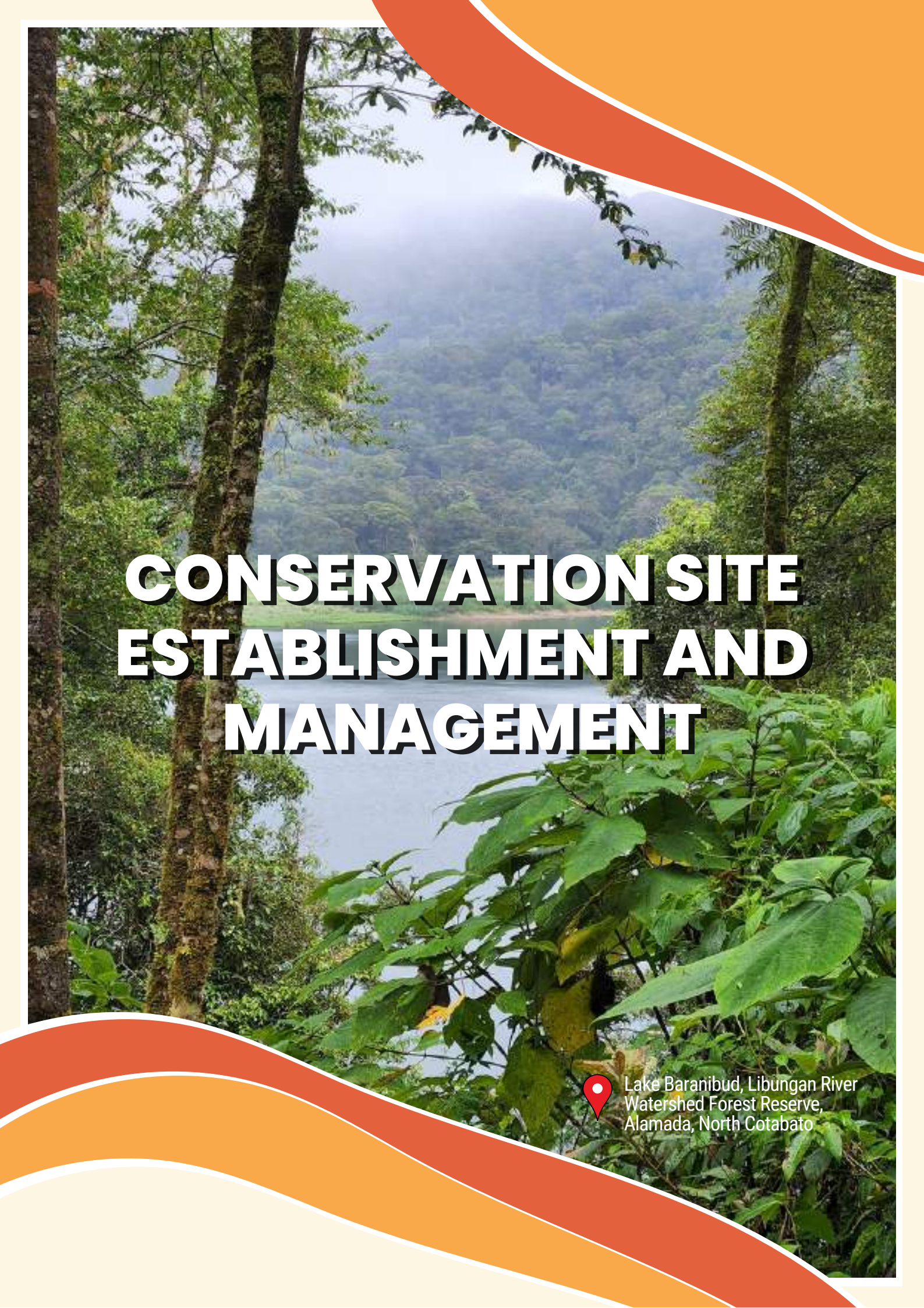
Roost of Island Flying Fox

Pre-testing of BAMS Manual on terrestrial caves

Cave fauna - 12 field staff from the DENR Region III and Caves Wetlands and other Ecosystems Division (CAWED) of DENR BMB participated in pre-testing the Biodiversity Assessment and Monitoring System manual on terrestrial caves organized by CAWED in Biak na Bato National Park, Bulacan last June 2022.



Staff from CAWED practice in handling and measuring bats



CONSERVATION SITE ESTABLISHMENT AND MANAGEMENT



Lake Baranibud, Libungan River
Watershed Forest Reserve,
Alamada, North Cotabato

PHILBIO EXPANDS TO REGION 12

Waterbird and Flying Fox survey in Alamada and Banisilan, North Cotabato

Waterbird - An estimated count of 400-500 individuals of Black-crowned night heron *Nycticorax caledonicus* and two Rufous night heron *Nycticorax nycticorax* were observed in Lamuyon, Brgy. Barangiran, Alamada, North Cotabato. The site appears to be the breeding area for the night herons and egrets of which 20 nests were spotted. Waterbird survey team was composed of Adiel Pamikirin, Shuahmed Bago, Rosalinda Prongco, Anna Saban, Danilo Puno and four others from CENRO Midsayap.

40,000-50,000
flying foxes population

30-40
Golden-crowned
Flying fox

5-6
roosting
trees
counted

Flying Foxes - Departed in the morning to Kabugan area in Brgy. Malagap, the survey team was accompanied by intrigued and curious barangay staff and local guides as they were interested to find out what were referred as 'flying foxes'. Conversations on flying foxes made the one hour travel along a rough road on a karst forest at 200-300m asl breezed through. Three species of flying foxes were identified: Island flying fox (*Pteropus hypomelanus*), Large flying fox (*Pteropus vampyrus*) and the Golden-crowned flying fox (*Acerodon jubatus*). Of the 40,000-50,000 estimated total population count, there were estimated 30-40 individuals of Golden-crowned flying fox in one roosting tree and another 4-5 more roosting trees with the Golden-crowned flying fox. Majority of the species were the Large flying foxes.

Endemic birds - Several bird species were recorded including the Mindanao tarictic hornbill, Mindanao writhed-billed hornbill, Southern Philippine hawk eagle and southern Philippine Trogon. Several scats of Philippine warty pig were also documented. With the promising results, PASu Farida Usman in CENRO Midsayap mentioned that they will be conducting a flying fox population and habitat study on the area with PhilBio.

Protection of species and habitats

The karst forest on Malagap is home to critically endangered flying foxes. The assessments and monitoring done by DENR and PhilBio led to a discussion with LGU Banisilan to declare the forest as a Critical Habitat for the Golden-crowned and Large flying foxes. The LGU was also looking to adapt the Golden-crowned flying fox as the LGU's flagship species and increasing protection efforts for the flying foxes and all wildlife in all of Banisilan.



Survey Team from CENRO Midsayap and PhilBio

CONSERVATION SITE ESTABLISHMENT AND MANAGEMENT

SUSTAINING SUPPORT FOR CEBU'S FOREST

The forests of Dalaguete and Alcoy on Cebu are two of the few remaining biodiversity stronghold supporting high number of endemic and threatened flora and fauna including four globally threatened birds: the Critically endangered Cebu Flowerpecker, the Critically endangered Cebu Brown Dove, the Endangered Black Shama and the Endangered Cebu Hawk owl, Cebu Streak-breasted Bulbul, Philippine Tube-Nosed Fruit Bat *Nyctimene rabori*, (Paguntalan et al., 2022; Paguntalan and Jakosalem, 2008). All of these threatened species are distributed across seven forest fragments in the entire island. Two of the municipalities have seen the importance of these species and their habitats, and have given constant support and led the conservation interventions of their valuable forests.

Remnants of Flying foxes in Dalaguete

Site visit at the roosting sites of flying foxes was conducted to check the status of the forest and the bat populations after super typhoon Odette. Oral reports from the townspeople of Dalaguete said that the bats had relocated on the mangrove areas, and only few remained on the forests. Population observed was a mix of *Pteropus hypomelanus* and *Pteropus vampyrus* with an estimated count of 50 individuals only.

50 individuals
flying foxes remaining



Andrew of PhilBio monitoring the population of flying foxes after the super typhoon Odette

Conservation Conversations with the Mayor of Dalaguete

Lisa Paguntalan of PhilBio had presented different strategies that can be applied and adopted by the Municipality. This includes the update and status of the Dalaguete Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, and PhilBio's roles in terms of technical assistance towards building the capacity of the environment officers and the citizens through field-based trainings.



Courtesy meeting with Mayor Cesante of Dalaguete, with Councilor Felix and Engr. Llenares with 2 faculties from PSHS

Supporting Resilience and Passion

PhilBio continue to support the Kapunungan sa mga Mag-uuma as Yutang Lasangnon Nug-as, Alcoy (KMYLBNA), the most passionate, resilient and hardworking forest protectors of Nug-as Forest. A revisit of KMYLB's core operations team and institutional status was conducted. PhilBio also facilitated the request for community development assistance from the DENR.



The strong and resilient Bantay Lasang of KMYLB in Nug-as, Alcoy

SMALLER ISLANDS CONSERVATION PROGRAMME: TAWI-TAWI

Updates on Sulu Hornbill Conservation Program

Sulu Hornbill Population - Since 2017, PhilBio has closely monitored the Sulu Hornbills *Anthracoceros montani* within the forested areas of Panglima Sugala in Tawi-Tawi. Fifteen count stations distributed across three 1-km transects of more than 500m distances from one was used in monitoring hornbill populations. The highest number of individuals encountered was 22 with 16 adults and six immature birds .



1,140
estimated
Sulu
Hornbill
population

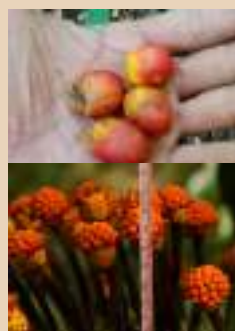


Behavior Observations - A total of six nesting trees were recorded. Nesting behavior and diet preferences were also observed.

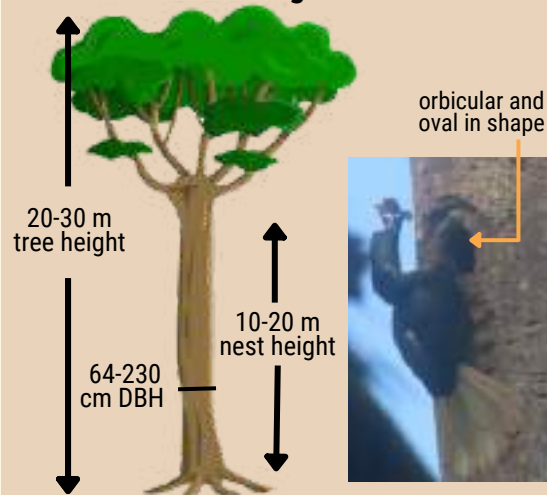
Food Plants

Documented food plants

- *Ficus spp.*
- *Cananga odorata*
- *Macaranga grandiflora*
- *Chisocheton pentandrum*
- *Knema (nutmeg)*
- *Myristica spp.*
- *Mallotus spp.*
- *Osmoxylon spp.*



Nesting trees



Mobilizing Youth for Inclusive Conservation

Conservation programs in Tawi-Tawi focuses on the conservation of unique species and habitat that the island harbors. For habitat rehabilitation, a group of youth volunteers from the Municipality of Panglima Sugala together with the TAWSI Rangers and staff from MENRE conducted a tree growing activity composed of native and endemic species in the island of Tawi-Tawi.



Tree growing activity using native forest trees

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

BTLNP Operations Manual and PAMB

Participation in the preparation of the BTLNP operations manual and attendance to the regular PAMB meeting for the approval of the operations Manual.



Review Committee of the BTLNP Operation Manual with lead by PENRO Negros Oriental, PAMO, DOST, EDC, LGUs and PhilBio

Bat Counts in San Carlos City

Close to 6,000 individuals of flying foxes were estimated from their roosts in Barangay Codcod, San Carlos City in Negros Occidental during a 2-day bat counts spearheaded by City Environment Management Office (CEMO) of San Carlos City and PhilBio last 21-22 September 2022.

The City of San Carlos through CEMO has proactively conducted flying fox monitoring and advocacy work in several areas including Barangay Codcod. This is by far the largest roosting site in the area.



6,000
flying foxes
population



The flying fox roost in CodCod, San Carslor City (left) and the Bat count team from LGU San Carlos City, Barangay CodCod LGU representatives and PhilBio (right).

WETLANDS AND LANDSCAPES



LEAR SUPPORTS CEBU'S FOREST

A new home for Siloy (Black Shama) and friends. It started with a few Cebu Cinnamon seedlings to now thousands of them intricately planted to improve tree diversity in single-species plantations. A seed of partnership planted in 2013 now bloomed into a forest of trees home to endangered Black Shama (*Kittacincla cebuensis*), Cebu Hawk Owl (*Ninox rumseyi*) and many more. From 2015-2018, LEAR Corporation had provided various support for the forest protection and rehabilitation of the Nug-as forest in Alcoy, Cebu. In 2021, Lear's support extended to a familiar and close location, Dalaguete, with the same intention of delivering community-based biodiversity conservation. The project focused on the protection and conservation of the forest and flying foxes in Dalaguete. Uniforms and hand-held radios were provided to the forest wardens of Dalaguete to support their forest monitoring and protection activities by improving communications. A total of 1,000 seedlings (1 hectare) composed of endemic tree species were planted.

Due to the impact of Super typhoon Odette, the biodiversity activities managed by the forest wardens of KMYLB, Nug-as in Alcoy was suspended for quite some time as the local communities were focused in rebuilding their lives. In November 2022, LEAR Corporation provided financial support that enabled the local forest wardens to continue their biodiversity monitoring activities. The much-needed assistance will enable PhilBio to have initial information on the biodiversity impacts of super typhoons. Staff from LEAR Corporation attended the ceremonial activity and a native tree planting activity.



Staff from LEAR Corporation are smiles seeing the planted Cinnamon growing so well

WETLANDS AND LANDSCAPES

LOCAL WATERBIRD EXPERTS IN CADIZ CITY

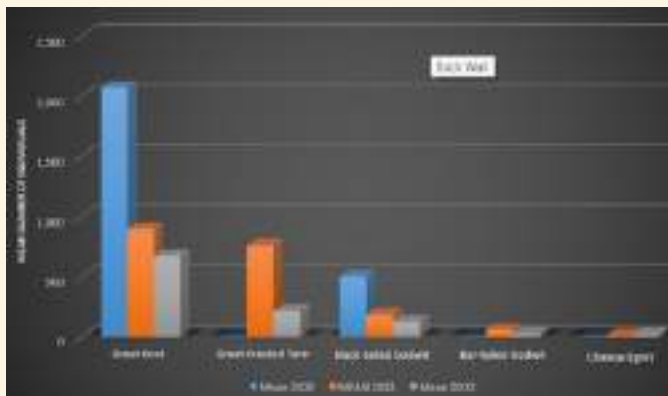
The wetlands of Cadiz City supports population of threatened species of waterbirds, namely: Endangered Far Eastern Curlew *Numenius madagascariensis* or locally called “sansuyan” and Great Knot *Calidris tenuirostris*, and the Vulnerable Chinese Egret *Egretta eulophotes*. Cadiz City wetlands have the potential to be the second Ramsar Site (wetland of international importance) in Western Visayas.

In 2019, PhilBio conducted a waterbird identification and monitoring training with the City Environment and Natural Resources Office of Cadiz City. PhilBio continued to mentor the key personnel from City-ENRO Cadiz by providing opportunities to practice and expand their knowledge and experience. Now, the staff of the City ENRO are the leading citizen scientists when it comes to waterbird identification and monitoring in Negros Occidental. They have participated the recent Asian Waterbird Census, led and assisted institutions and teams during the monitoring. With constant strengthening of technical skills, the data of Cadiz City significantly improved, and several monitoring sites were also identified. On December 2022, the survey peaked to more than 5,000 in one coastal wetland. This extraordinary result prompted the City ENRO of Cadiz to further enhance their wetland conservation program by involving local communities in the monitoring and protection activities.

5,140
highest recorded
count on 2022



100 participated
during the
waterbird ID
training and AWC



Total counts of five threatened for 2020-2022

Since 2020, the City ENRO of Cadiz regularly conducts monthly monitoring of waterbirds and education awareness campaigns. Surveys had also extended to include fishponds, sand bars and small islets with extensive seagrass beds. The long-term protection of the waterbirds and wetlands was initiated through an ordinance declaring the wetland sites as local conservation areas (LCA).



Youth of Cadiz City practices in waterbird bird ID and count



Staff from the City ENRO of Cadiz during one of their monthly waterbird count

WETLANDS AND LANDSCAPES

UPDATES ON THE NEGROS OCCIDENTAL COASTAL WETLANDS CONSERVATION AREA (NOCWCA)

Asian Waterbird Census 2022

A total of 18,366 waterbirds composed of 71 species were recorded during the AWC 2022. This was participated by DENR Offices (PENRO Negros Occidental, CENRO Kabankalan City, CENRO Bago City and CENRO Cadiz City), with ENRO staff of LGUs, POs and PhilBio. Among the 5 Vulnerable and Endangered species, Great Knot recorded the most counts with 2694 while the Nordmann's Greenshank only recorded two individuals.

Chinese (Swinhoe's) Egret	VU	20
Philippine Duck	VU	81
Far Eastern Curlew	EN	47
Nordmann's Greenshank	EN	2
Great Knot	EN	2694



Great Knot shot within the wetlands of NOCWCA

18,366 total waterbird counted

71 species recorded

Areas counted per City / Municipality	No. of species recorded	Total no. of Waterbirds counted
Municipality of Hinigaran	9	2369
Himamaylan City	24	1238
Kabankalan City	24	5146
Municipality of Ilog	55	1765
Municipality of Binalbagan	35	905
Municipality of Pontevedra	18	556
Municipality of San Enrique	47	6036
Municipality of Valladolid	8	239
Municipality of Pulupandan	0	0
Bago City	19	113
TOTAL	71	18,366

Review and workshop of NOCWCA Management Plan

NOCWAMA and the other stakeholders of NOCWCA gathered together for the Review of the Management Plan of NOCWCA and Re-planning Workshop for the Management Plan 2023-2028. The participants of the activity were PENRO Negros Occidental, CENRO Bago, CENRO Kabankalan, PEMO, PPDO, Representatives from the LGU of Ilog, Kabankalan City, Himamaylan City, Binalbagan City, Hinigaran City, San Jose, San Enrique, Valladolid, Pulupandan, and Bago. Oceana Philippines also attended the workshop to presented the coastal greenbelt bill to the participants and encouraged the LGUs to also start establishing coastal greenbelt in their area



Godfrey Jakosalem represented PhilBio during the NOCWCA Management Plan workshop

WETLANDS AND LANDSCAPES

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

NEGROS NAKED-BACKED FRUIT BAT in the island of Siquijor?

✕ NO ENCOUNTERS ✕
of Negros Naked-backed fruit bat in Siquijor Island

PhilBio assisted DENR in validating the reported presence of the species in one of the caves in Siquijor Island. The Negros Naked-backed fruit bat is an endemic medium-sized fruit bat known only to occur on Negros and Cebu. It was declared extinct until its rediscovery on Cebu Island in 2001 (Paguntalan et al. 2004) and on Negros in 2003 (Alcala et al. 2004). The cave-dwelling bat was netted in degraded karst forest and close to caves and limestone cliffs. Since its rediscovery, no new records have been confirmed on Cebu. The last record was on Negros sometime in 2012-2013.

The cave surveys on Siquijor Island recorded breeding populations of the Diadem leaf-nosed bat (*Hipposideros diadema*), Yellow-faced Horseshoe bat (*Rhinolophus virgo*), Bent-winged bat (*Miniopterus* sp) and possibly Large-eared Horseshoe bat (*Rhinolophus philippensis*). The team did not encounter the Negros Naked-backed fruit bat.



Species validation team with staff from DENR 7 Regional Office, PENRO Siquijor and PhilBio

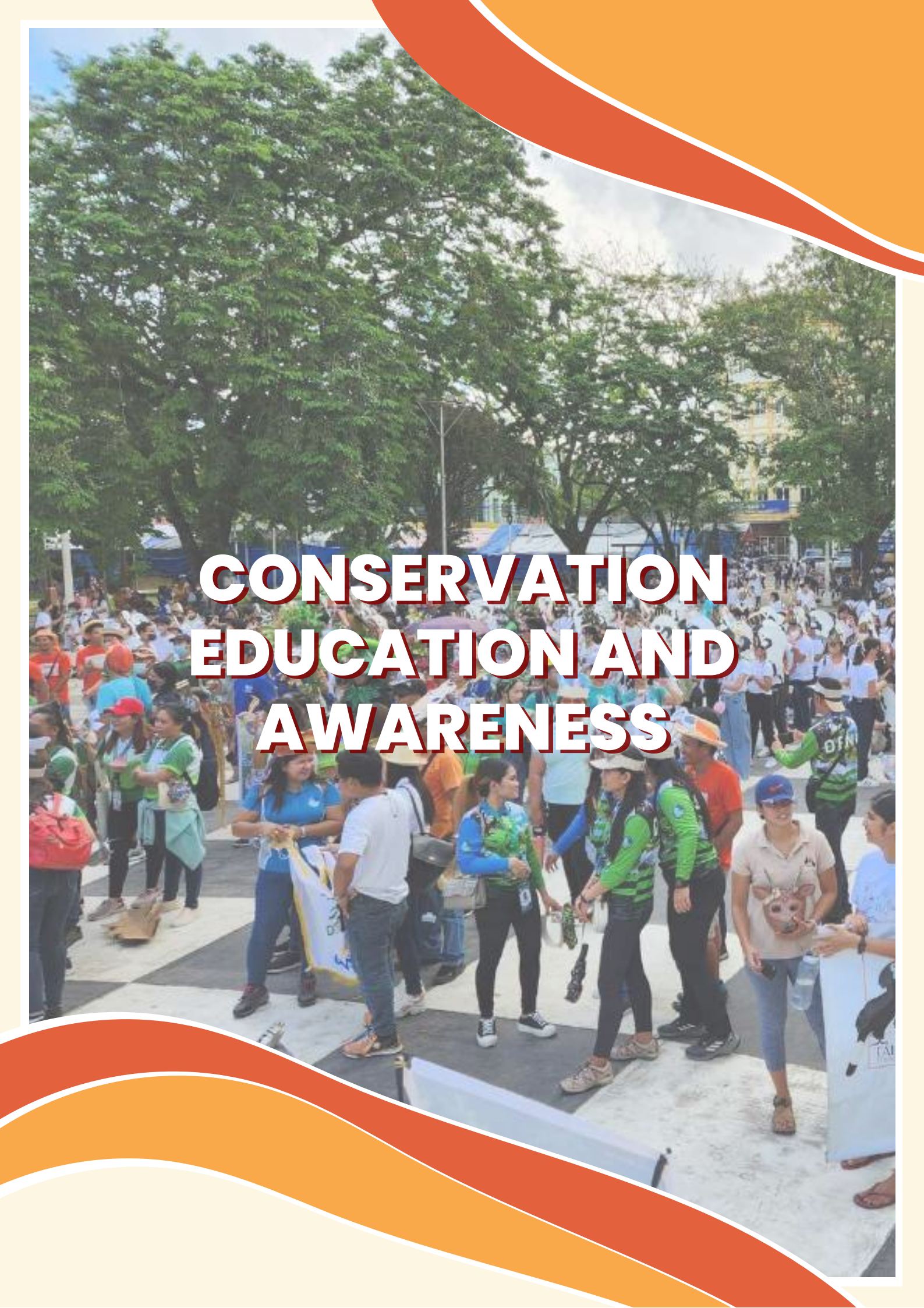
Citizens count bats in Zamboanga Sibugay

555,000 - 600,000
population of flying foxes emerged



Thousands of bats emerge from mangrove areas

PhilBio was invited by DENR PENRO Zamboanga Sibugay to a learning event participated by the communities from the wetlands of Zamboanga Sibugay. A flying fox count estimated 550,000 - 600,000 emerging from mangrove roost in Siay, Zamboanga Sibugay. In 2013, the flying fox population fluctuates from 15,000 - 30,000 individuals. DENR - PENRO Zamboanga Sibugay in partnership with the local government and fisherfolk communities work together to protect the roost population in the mangrove area. In less than a decade, the flying fox population exploded to half a million individuals. The learning event was conducted in partnership with PhilBio and Nagao Foundation.

A large crowd of people is gathered outdoors for an event. Many individuals are wearing green and blue shirts, some with logos. In the foreground, a woman in a green shirt is handing a small object to another person. To the right, a woman is holding a deer head mask. The background is filled with more people and large green trees under a bright sky. The entire image is framed by orange and red wavy borders at the top and bottom.

CONSERVATION EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

CONTINUING THE LEGACY ON ITS 18TH YEAR

November of every year marks the celebration of the one of the most important festivities in Negros Occidental, the Wildlife Month Festival - now on its 18th year. Already on its 18th year, the Province of Negros Occidental with the Philippines Biodiversity Conservation Foundation, Inc. and other relevant private and public institutions and agencies continue to bring pride for their biodiversity and honor the importance of all stakeholders participation in promoting and pursuing conservation strategies and approaches. This year, a total of more than 5,000 stakeholders all over Negros Occidental were reached from all of the activities.

5,000 +
stakeholders reached

This year, the civil society organizations (CSO) and academe gave emphasis on the significance of understory habitats and its equally important relevance to other habitats in maintaining biodiversity and providing other services to wildlife and people. The Negros Bleeding-heart pigeon (*Gallicolumba keayi*) is the flagship species for fauna representing the vulnerability of the remaining habitats within Negros Island as it supports endemic and threatened wildlife, while the Negros ginger (*Zingiber negrosense*) for the flora giving priority to the biodiversity in ensuring food security. The overall logo generally depicts the Negros Island - from the vast agricultural fields to the highest peak of Mt. Kanlaon gleaming on vibrant colors. The celebration revolves on the theme "Maghiliusa kag maghulag kita, Para sa pagkaon kag ekonomiya, Biodiversity sg Negros amligan ta."



Negros ginger
*Zingiber
negrosense*



Negros Bleeding-
heart Pigeon
Gallicolumba keayi

The Visayan Hornbill (*Penelopides panini*) was chosen as the flagship species along with Gapas-gapas (*Camptostemon philippinensis*) for the Province of Negros Occidental and Local Government Units to continue the awareness of the community on the threatened and native species of the country with the theme "Restoring key species for ecosystems restoration."



Wildlife month banner of the Provincial Government of
Negros Occidental

Inception meeting for the Negros Occidental Wildlife Month

Meeting with DepEd, academe partners, DENR PENRO Negros Occidental, CSOs and NGOs for the activities of the 18th Negros Occidental Wildlife month that includes the Provincial wildlife quiz bowl, National wildlife quiz bowl, Wildlife photo exhibits, Biodiversity conservation lectures, Biodiversity research symposium and Negros Wildlife foot parade.



Inception meeting for the activities of Negros Occidental Wildlife month with academe partners, DENR, CSOs and NGOs.

The 17th Negros Occidental Provincial Wildlife Quiz Bowl

A total of 63 schools across 27 cities and municipalities within Negros Occidental came prepared and enthusiastic for the 17th Negros Occidental Provincial Wildlife Quiz held at the Carlos Hilado Memorial State University - Talisay Campus.

63 
schools
reached from

Once the students and teachers entered the auditorium, the venue was not filled with low buzzes and pages of papers as the students seized the remaining minutes to review their notes. Their eyes brimming with eagerness not for the prize but to bring honor to their school and to their respective places. Faces of anticipation and loss were eventually observed as the quiz went by knowing they may or may not move up to the succeeding rounds. Every minute was an opportunity - may it be for reviewing, reading the questions or writing your answers.

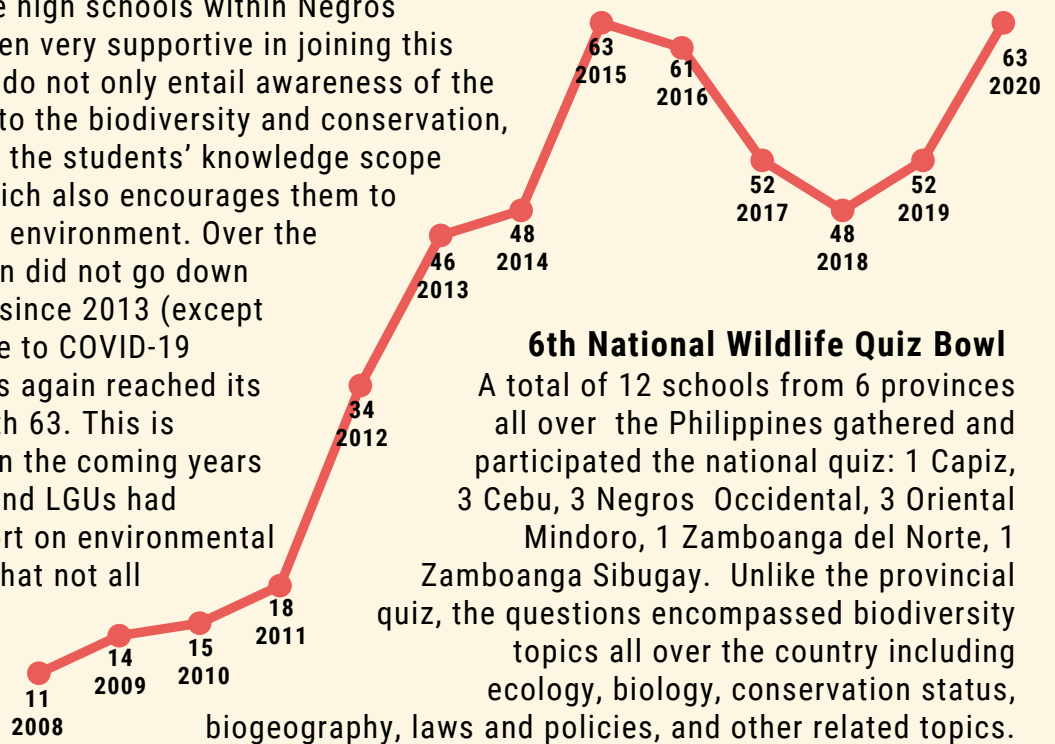
27
cities and
municipalities
within Negros
Occidental

Before revealing the winning schools, everyone's faces looked tense and curious as who among the 63 participants became victorious. Negros Occidental High School who came home as the victors of the event. The representatives from Colegio San Agustin - Bacolod bagged the 2nd Place while Tabao National High School from the Municipality of Valladolid came as 3rd Place winners. The winners represented Negros Occidental in the National Wildlife Quiz.



(left) 1st placers from NOHS, (right) representatives from Binalbagan NHS using the break time to study.

Over the years, the high schools within Negros Occidental had been very supportive in joining this activity since this do not only entail awareness of the school in regards to the biodiversity and conservation, this also develops the students' knowledge scope on biodiversity which also encourages them to pursuit careers on environment. Over the years, participation did not go down below 40 schools since 2013 (except 2020 and 2021 due to COVID-19 pandemic) and has again reached its peak this 2022 with 63. This is expected to rise on the coming years as more schools and LGUs had shown their support on environmental activities, noting that not all areas in Negros Occidental were reached.



6th National Wildlife Quiz Bowl

A total of 12 schools from 6 provinces all over the Philippines gathered and participated the national quiz: 1 Capiz, 3 Cebu, 3 Negros Occidental, 3 Oriental Mindoro, 1 Zamboanga del Norte, 1 Zamboanga Sibugay. Unlike the provincial quiz, the questions encompassed biodiversity topics all over the country including ecology, biology, conservation status, ecology, biology, conservation status,



All of the participants, coaches and organizers during the 6th National Wildlife Quiz

Upon entering the hall, the 12 school participants did not bother to acquaint one another, instead went directly to their seats and reviewed their notes - a mix, others seemed nervous, few seemed excited. After announcing the top 3 victors, none of the participants felt defeat, and curiosity and smiles graced their faces.

Parts of the national quiz were the free admission at the Negros Forests and Ecological Foundation, Inc. sponsored by Talarak Foundation, and at the Mambukal Resort and Wildlife Sanctuary wherein the participants and coaches get to experience an ecosystems tour which included exploring the whole sanctuary and free bathing, and first-hand flying fox monitoring.



1st

Negros Occidental High School



2nd

Sisters of Mary School - Girlstown



3rd

Colegio San Agustin - Bacolod



Students during the National Wildlife Quiz

Wildlife Photo Exhibits

More than 1000 students had attended the series of Wildlife Photo Exhibits showcasing 40 photos of wildlife of Negros/Philippines displayed in several schools in Talisay and Bacolod City for the whole wildlife month. Short talks on Negros/Philippine wildlife followed every event opening wherein very few showed their interest in pursuing environmental careers.

1,000 students and teachers reached



Biodiversity Talk at Carlos Hilado Memorial State University

Biodiversity Talks

Since one of the goals of PhilBio is to widen its approach and go down on the grass roots on awareness and education, one of the supported activities of PhilBio was the conduct of Biodiversity Lectures on different schools within Negros Occidental. A total of 1,320+ students participated the series of lectures with meaningful discussions.

1,320+ students and teachers participated

Biodiversity Research Symposium

This year's symposium covered 10 studies: urban birds by Bacolod City National High School, from the city government of San Carlos and Cadiz City, from DENR (Tañon Strait Protected Seascape, Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park) and research studies from different groups on ferns, plants, reptiles and raptors from the academe.

10 research studies presented

Wildlife of Negros Foot Parade

The Negros Wildlife Foot Parade led by the DENR – PENRO Negros Occidental was conducted to gather all the organizers, partners and supporters of the 18th Negros Occidental Provincial Wildlife Month Festival successfully ended the wildlife month festival. A total of 750+ participants joined the 800-m parade and program in Bacolod City Plaza to celebrate biodiversity and community-led conservation strategies. Group cheers and yells banged the whole plaza. What a delightful scene, an assemblage of people from various sectors of different ages all gathered for the environment. Surely, a moment worth keeping.

750+ stakeholders participated



Panoramic view of the Negros Wildlife Foot Parade

9TH CEBU PROVINCIAL WILDLIFE QUIZ

On its 9th non-consecutive year after the gradual lifting of restrictions from the pandemic, with the initiative of the Cebu Technological University - Argao Campus led by Dr. Hemres Alburo, the provincial wildlife quiz in Cebu has again challenged schools all over Cebu. On its 9th year of providing significant awareness on Philippines biodiversity, the organizers tried to adjust the preparations and needs of the activity, and still leading to the same purpose. Full of enthusiasm, Hemres with his wife, Rosalyn Alburo, and his small team and in partnership with PhilBio, organized and managed the whole activity, from the invitations to the awarding. They expressed excitement as this would be high time to bring back the practice.

 **13**
schools
participated
in Cebu
Province

A total of thirteen (13) schools all over Cebu participated the quiz. All seemed very determined and none of the participating schools wasted no time as they entered the venue - some directly gathered their notes and reviewed, while some had it with their coaches. As the quiz went by, the levels went more difficult as detected on the students' faces. Some questions were answered correctly by many, some questions were evenhanded, while some literally had none. The quiz went smoothly with minor technical difficulties but that didn't halt the eagerness of the students and coaches. Nearing the end of the quiz, two schools had a tight match for 3rd place wherein they had a tie breaker of three questions. Ultimately, only three schools were recognized as Top 3 schools: 1st Place - Sisters of Mary School Girlstwon from Municipality of Minglanilla, 2nd Place goes to Bato National High School from Toledo City and Third Place - Toledo City Science High School from the same city. The three winners proudly represented their schools in the National Wildlife Quiz last 22-23 November 2022 at Bacolod City, Negros Occidental.

Participants and organizers of the 9th
Cebu Provincial Wildlife Quiz



CEBU STUDENTS AND ARTISTS SUPPORT ON CONSERVATION



Project **UNVEILED**

12,000 pesos
donation from students and
artists in Cebu to KMLYB



Project UNVEILED showcased artwork of native and endemic flora and fauna of Cebu as part of the fund raising event by the Cebu Association of Biology Students (CABS) and the Art Class of Mactan Artist Guild. The CABS is a interschool organization registered under the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) composed and led by students from schools handling courses on Biology either on Sciences or Education. The Art Class of Mactan Artist Guild is also an organization composed of artists, specifically painters, who provide art classes on different age ranges and use art as form of awareness on different aspects. The Project UNVEILED is part of strategies of CABS to raise funds in support to biodiversity conservation. Proceeds from the fund raising event will be used as part of the Adopt-a-forest program of the group that starts with the repair of the Nug-as Research Station badly damaged by Super typhoon Odette. The CABS collaborated with the Art Class of Mactan Artist Guild wherein their students were tasked to paint any threatened and endemic flora and fauna. Part of the proceeds of their classes will be donated and their artworks will be showcased on an art gallery in Cebu.

The Philippines Biodiversity Conservation Foundation Inc. (PhilBio) facilitated the turn-over event of the 12,000.00 donation with the forest wardens of Kapunungan sa mga Mag-uuma sa Yutang Lasangnon sa Bulalacao, Nug-as Alcoy. A tree planting activity of 30 species of native and endemic Cinnamon seedlings was also conducted to commemorate their 1st successful fund-raising activity. The students and the forest wardens had conversations sharing conservation stories and potentials. Their donations will be directed to repair of the Research Center in Nug-as, Alcoy.



Members of CABS and Art Class of Mactan Artist Guild during their unveiling and art exhibit



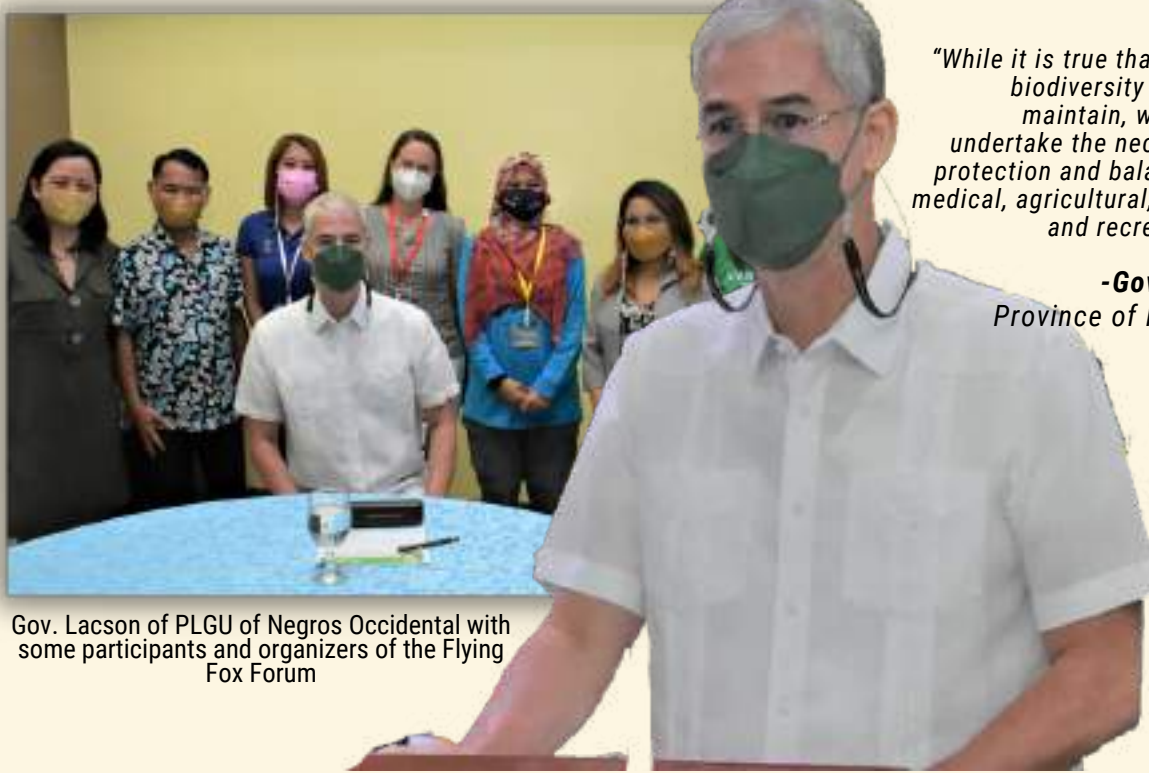
Members of CABS and Art Class of Mactan Artist Guild during their ceremonial tree planting at Nug-as, Alcoy

FLYING FOXES TAKE CENTER STAGE

Flying Foxes take center stage in the 1st National Flying Fox Forum held at the provincial government-run Mambukal Resort and Wildlife Sanctuary in the Municipality of Murcia, organized by the Biodiversity Management Bureau of Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in collaboration with the Mabuwaya Foundation Inc., and the Philippines Biodiversity Conservation Foundation Inc. (PhilBio) in Mambukal Resort and Wildlife Sanctuary. This event is supported by the United States Fish and Wildlife Services.

The Flying Fox forum was also an opportunity for international presenters from Indonesia and Malaysia and regional partners from the Philippines to share their conservation initiatives in Southeast Asia. The forum aimed to assess the results of flying fox hunting and trafficking studies in Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines and the finalization of the Philippine Flying Fox Conservation and Management Plan 2022 - 2032. Flying Fox species in Southeast Asia are threatened by habitat loss, roost site disturbance and hunting. Many flying fox species roost communally in trees during the day making them an easy target for hunters. Pilot conservation projects were implemented to address flying fox hunting through communication/education campaigns, and better law enforcement and protection. The lessons learned were used to refine conservation strategies for flying foxes in Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines.

"While it is true that the balance of our biodiversity isn't always easy to maintain, we must nonetheless undertake the necessary steps for its protection and balance; for ecological, medical, agricultural, and even aesthetic and recreational importance," said Governor Eugenio Lacson of Negros Occidental. Among the attendees at the said forum were DENR Region 9 Assistant Regional Director, Dante Oporto, Katherine Soriano of the DENR - Biodiversity Management Bureau, Dr. Tammy Mildenstein of the University of Guam, Dr. Juliana Senawi and Dr. Nur Ain Elias of the University of Malaysia, Sheherazade of Indonesia, and Dr. Merlyn Van Weerd of Mabuwaya Foundation, among others.



"While it is true that the balance of our biodiversity isn't always easy to maintain, we must nonetheless undertake the necessary steps for its protection and balance; for ecological, medical, agricultural, and even aesthetic and recreational importance,

-Gov. Eugenio Lacson
Province of Negros Occidental

Gov. Lacson of PLGU of Negros Occidental with some participants and organizers of the Flying Fox Forum

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

Student Research earns multiple recognitions

Senior high school students from Bacolod City National High School earned top prizes during the 2022 National Organization of Science Teachers and Educators NOSTE Conference. Lance Querubin A. Mabugat earned the Best Presenter Award while Best Paper Award was given to the Bird Species Composition, Abundance, Diversity, and Evenness at Panaad Park, Stadium, Provincial Capitol Park, and Lagoon Bacolod City, Negros Occidental, Philippines study. Both studies have been supported by PhilBio Field Operations Director Philip Godfrey Jakosalem. Other members of the student team include: Anton Van J C. Catalan, Lara Lois D. Te, Karl Josh L. Collarin, John Dave R. Masiado, Wyeth G. Dogelio, and their adviser Phillip Raymund R. De Oca



Students during the awarding of certificate



Students conducting bird survey at Panaad EcoPark

International Day of the Forest 2022 at Victorias City

In celebration with International Day of the Forest 2022, the Victorias City Tourism Office, the Negros Occidental Tourism Division, DENR and PhilBio conducted a three-day of fun and learning with different communities in Victorias City on birdwatching guiding training at Gawahon Eco Park, Victorias City. The participants were taught on how to be a good bird guide, how to use the equipment, and most importantly how to identify and find birds. Victorias City forest delighted participants with West Visayas endemic species e.g. Black-belted Flowerpecker, Visayan Drongo, Visayan Fantail, Visayan Shama, Magnificent Sunbird and the endangered Flame-temple Babbler.



Discussion and bird-watching during the learning event and birdwatching guiding training at Gawahon Eco-Park

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

PUBLISHED WORKS

2 researches published on international journals

Habitat preference and population density of threatened Visayan hornbills *Penelopides panini* and *Rhabdotorrhinus waldeni* in the Philippines

Reintar et al. 2022



Population density and distribution of the Endangered Black Shama *Kittacincla cebuensis*

Paguntalan et al. 2022



BIODIVERSITY TALKS



Biodiversity Talk during the World Wildlife Day celebration attended by 100 participants from BMB and DENR Field Offices



Around the Bat World talk organized by Bats Without Borders.org



Online Biodiversity Talk organized by the University of the Visayas to raise awareness to college students as part of the SDG of the country.



Status of Biodiversity in Negros during the Wildlife Month Celebration on Cagay City attended by 200 participants



EFFECTIVE AND ADAPTIVE GOVERNANCE



Mangrove area of Zamboanga
Sibugay

PHILBIO AS A "STRONG ORGANIZATION"

The Non-U.S. Organization Pre-Award Survey (NUPAS) is an evaluation to assess the capacity to manage USAID funds and the likelihood for compliance with U.S. federal government regulations. The Philippine Council of NGO Certification (PCNC) conducted the NUPAS assessment of PhilBio last August 19, 2022 for the USAID-INSPIRE Project funding. The assessment looked into the following organizational components: Legal Structure, Financial Management and Internal Control, Procurement, Human Resource System, Project Performance Management, and Organizational Sustainability. Each organizational component is composed of a set of functions that should be complied with. The degree of compliance for each function was rated using a scale of 1 to 4, with 4 signifying full compliance. Overall average is computed from average score of each component which comes from the average score per function.

3.79 over 4 on NUPAS Evaluation.
PhilBio demonstrates as a **STRONG ORGANIZATION**.

During the NUPAS evaluation of PhilBio, in the scale of 1 to 4, the organization garnered an overall average score of **3.79**, an indicator of a **strong organization**. This signified that PhilBio has greatly improved on the above-mentioned components. Part of the respondents were two Board Members of PhilBio: Atty. Ignacio Santillana (Secretary) and Atty. Felix Marie "Ace" Durano (Member), Plaridel Tison from Colegio de San Agustin representing the academe, Freddie Lozada from LGU Victorias City representing the LGU, and Hannah Torres-Sarao from BTLNP-PAMO and Reginaldo Bueno of DENR VII Regional Office for national government agencies. The PhilBio always strive hard to improve its system to reach a near perfect score and better and more efficient working environment.



PCNC Evaluators during the NUPAS Evaluation



PhilBio partners were invited during the NUPAS Evaluation with Mr. Reginaldo Bueno of DENR 7, Ms. Hannah Sarao from BTLNP-PAMO, Mr. Plaridel Tison from Colegio San Agustin-Bacolod, and Mr. Freddie Lozada from Gawahon Eco-Park

STRONGER IN NUMBERS



CHRISTIAN R. CASIO

Conservation Education Officer

A graduate of BS in Biology from Cebu Normal University.

Christian's main interest is on plant taxonomy, assessment and ecology. His other interest is on developing communication materials. His dedicated interest to be involved on conservation has led him to joining the organization.



KAHLAEL OMERO

Project Site Coordinator (SWN)

A graduate of BS in Forestry from Visayas State University, Kahlael hails from Cauayan, Negros Occidental. Her responsibilities in PhilBio includes coordinating the field activities with partners.



ERIKA LOBATON

Admin Assistant

A graduate of BS in Business Administration Major in Financial Management from STI-WNU. A true blue Ilongga from Cadiz City. She hopes to not just impart her financial management skills but to also learn more on Philippines biodiversity.

OTHER MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS

Negros Occidental again recognizes PhilBio

The Provincial Government of Negros Occidental through Provincial Environment Management Office recognized PhilBio's conservation initiatives in the province with a Plaque of Recognition along with other organizations, institutions and agencies. Philip Godfrey Jakosalem received the award with Girlie Mangilimutan in behalf of PhilBio.



Godfrey Jakosalem and Girlie Mangilimutan accepting the recognition from the Province of Negros Occidental

PhilBio Finance and Admin gets an upgrade

PhilBio Finance and Admin team (Girlie MANilimutan and Erika Lobaton) participated in the AuditPal training for USAID INSPIRE project grantees. The activity was facilitated by the Gerry Roxas Foundation Inc.



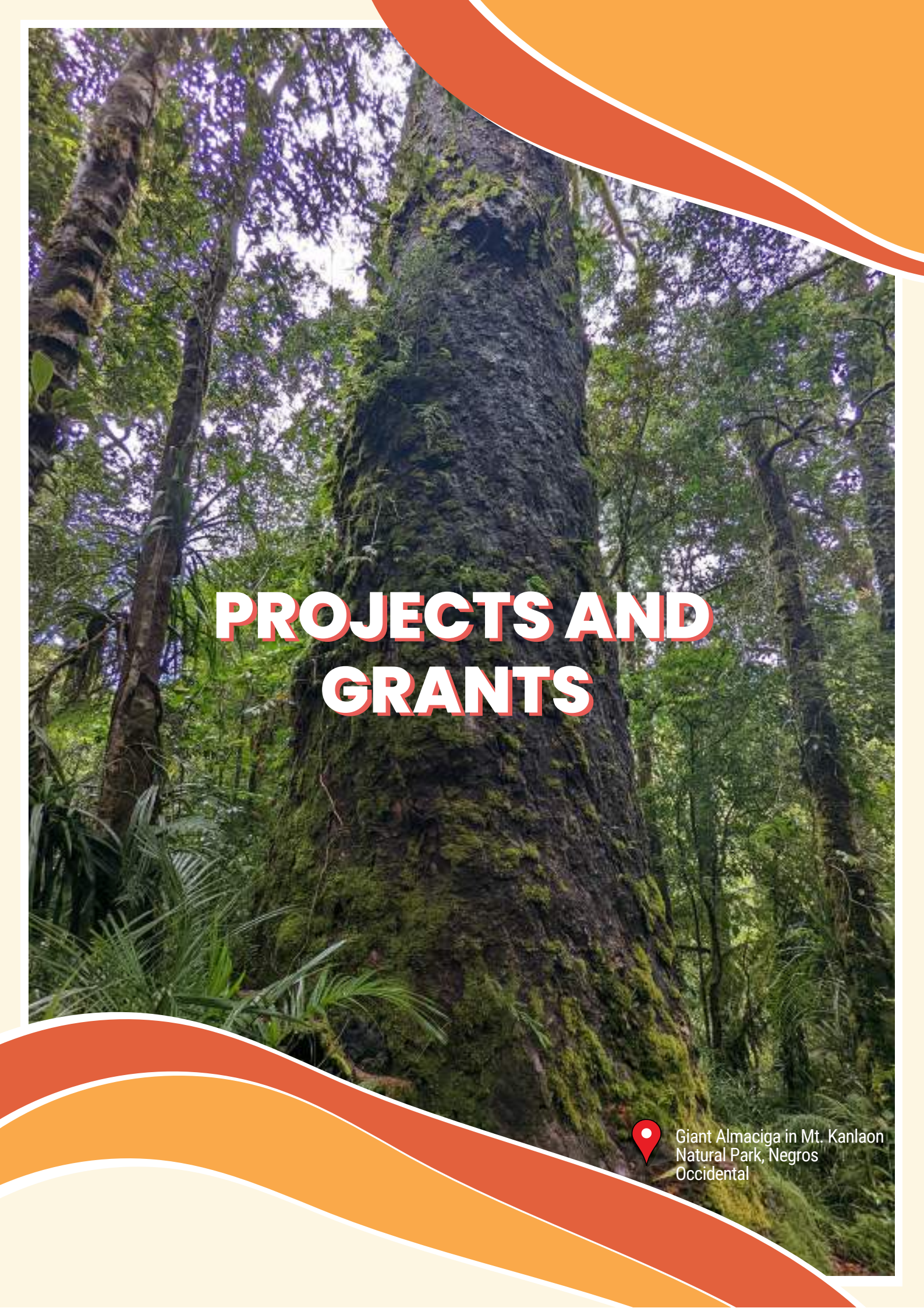
Girlie Mangilimutan and Erika Lobaton as the representatives from PhilBio for AuditPal training

Donations from Born to Be Wild and Family Feud (GMA)

The staff of Born To Be Wild donated their prize money as they won the jackpot prize during the September 9, 2022 Family Feud episode in support to the conservation to the conservation works of PhilBio.



Thank you poster for Born To Be Wild and Family Feud for the donations for PhilBio



PROJECTS AND GRANTS



Giant Almaciga in Mt. Kanlaon
Natural Park, Negros
Occidental

FINANCE SOLUTIONS FOR NEGROS ISLAND

UNDP-BMB, PHILBIO AND NEGROS LGU

Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN) is a global UNDP initiative across 41 countries which contributes to closing the financing gap for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity by identifying, accessing, combining and sequencing sources of biodiversity funding. In the Philippines, BIOFIN is working with the DENR to finance the Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (PBSAP), the country's roadmap to conserving its biodiversity. The PBSAP implementation costs PhP24B/year or PhP334B (USD 7.4B low estimate) from 2015 to 2028. However, public expenditure was estimated at only P4.9B/year (USD 110M) thus a gap of almost PhP19B (USD 349M) annually was determined. Several finance solutions to address this gap were identified and are being piloted by BIOFIN at present including mainstreaming biodiversity into local plans and programs.

PhilBio in partnership with UNDP BIOFIN Project works closely with the Office of the Provincial Governor and Sangguniang Panglalawigan of Negros Occidental and Negros Oriental to facilitate the project cooperation agreements for the sustainability of financing strategies in the island. The planned activities to be implemented are the following:



Assist the 2 PLGUs in accessing and synergizing local programs to align LGU proposal and access support from national programs that shares the same objective with Php20M target on finance solutions for both provinces.



Assist at least one LGU in accessing funds through ER 1-94



Assist LGUs own sources and revenues by advocating the implementation of provincial tourism ecological fee ordinance of at least one PLGU

EXPECTED OUTPUTS



Partnership with signed memorandum of agreements on project cooperation



Partners forum with potential donors with signed agreements between PLGU, NGO and private sector partner



Adoption of the Negros Oriental Biodiversity Strategy and Finance Plan 2022 – 2028



Resources mobilized of at least Php20M for both provinces



Approved Tourism Ecological Fee Ordinance to Provincial Board



Annual workplan of PLGU containing proposed project for funding from ER 1-94



Resolution signed by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan endorsing the project for ER 1-94 funding



Annual allocations to biodiversity programs and projects in the Annual Investment Program (AIP) or other related documents by at least 20%

Bio-SECURE: Saving the Unprotected Forests of Western Visayas

Considered as the country's most threatened biogeographic region, Western Visayas still has unprotected forests namely: Central

Panay Mountain Range, Cuernos de Negros Mountain Range and the Southwestern Negros KBA. These areas are in danger of further fragmenting into smaller forest blocks as conversion of forests to different land uses continues. Biological and population studies on endemic and threatened wildlife in all three KBAs are patchy and there is a lack of landscape-level information. Management interventions rarely considered issues involving the conservation of biodiversity simply because of lack of available information and low appreciation of the ecosystem services of KBAs with no legal protection. With its unique, rich and diverse wildlife and ecosystems, PhilBio looks at the opportunity to conserve unprotected forests on Negros and Panay Islands.

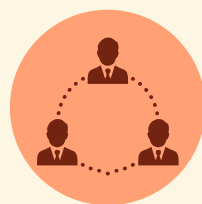


The Investing in Sustainability and Partnerships for Inclusive Growth and Regenerative Ecosystems (INSPIRE) project of USAID promotes natural resource conservation and ecosystem and community resilience by supporting civil society organizations in advocating for and participating in good natural resource governance.

Through its 3-year project entitled "**Biodiversity and Sustainable Ecosystem Restoration in Unprotected Rainforests of Western Visayas (Bio-SECURE)**", PhilBio aims to: a) enhance biodiversity information of the 3 unprotected forests to support on its legislations needed for conservation; b) improve competencies of the stakeholders in biodiversity conservation in the three remaining unprotected forests; c) provide biodiversity-friendly alternative livelihood for Bukidnon Magahat Indigenous Peoples in Damutan, Hinobaan, Southwestern Negros; and d) mobilize communities towards biodiversity conservation.



Enhance biodiversity information to support on its legislations needed for conservation



Provide biodiversity-friendly alternative livelihood



Improve competencies of the stakeholders in biodiversity conservation



Mobilize communities towards biodiversity conservation

This project will update biological information in two unprotected forests and one Ancestral Domain of the Bukidnon Magahat tribal community in Hinobaan. The updated biological profile for Central Panay Mountain Range (CPMR) and Cuernos de Negros (CDN) will be crucial in securing the ecosystem services of these areas. An updated profile will also provide the needed conservation information for integration in local and regional development and management plan. The project will also advocate for an increased support for biodiversity conservation program; help improve citizen science participation in wildlife monitoring, provide biodiversity friendly livelihood swap for indigenous community, heighten local awareness and appreciation of biodiversity as well as in providing support for biodiversity protection in the three key biodiversity areas on Negros and Panay.

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE SO FAR

1 INSPIRE PROJECT GRANTS AWARDING EVENT



The 12 grantees of the 1st Cycle of the USAID-INSPIRE were gathered for the official declaration and awarding of the Cycle 1 grantees.



2 COURTESY CALL MEETING FOR ACTIVITIES WITHIN LGU HINOBAAN

Courtesy calls and project presentation to Hon. Daph Anthony Reliquias of LGU Hinobaan and CENRO Dimatulac of CENRO Kabankalan City were conducted to synergize plans and programs.



3 COURTESY CALL WITH PARTNERS WITHIN PANAY



Gov. Rhodora Cadiao of the Province of Antique



4 PROVINCIAL WILDLIFE QUIZ, PHOTO EXHIBIT AND BIODIVERSITY SYMPOSIUM



above: University of Antique President, below: Miag-ao ENRO, Antique ENRO and DENR PENRO Antique



FINANCIAL REPORT

Epiblastus merrillii, a
Philippine endemic orchid

PHILIPPINES BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION FOUNDATION, INC.
c/o NFEFI Compound, South Capitol Road, Bacolod City
Statement of Financial Position
As of February 28, 2023
(In Philippine Currency)

ASSETS	Notes	28-Feb-22	31-Jan-23
Current Assets			
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	4	2,491,511.77	2,217,996.16
Total Trade and Other Receivables	5	354,908.03	549,942.53
Total Current Assets		2,846,419.80	2,767,938.69
Non Current Assets			
Property Plant and Equipment	6	1,488,421.35	1,488,386.85
Total Investments	7	12,710,462.02	12,710,462.02
Total Non Current Assets		14,198,883.37	14,198,848.87
TOTAL ASSETS		17,045,303.17	16,966,787.56
LIABILITIES & EQUITY			
Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables	8	510,775.57	530,534.24
Long Term Payables			
Total Liabilities		510,775.57	530,534.24
Fund Balance		16,534,527.60	16,436,253.32
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		17,045,303.17	16,966,787.56

* See Note to Financial Statements

Prepared by:

GIRLIE D. MANGILIMUTAN
Finance and Admin Officer

Noted by:

LISA D. BAGUNTALAN
Executive Director

PHILIPPINES BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION FOUNDATION, INC.

c/o NFEFI Compound, South Capitol Road, Bacolod City

Statement of Fund Operations

As of February 28, 2023

(In Philippine Currency)

		28-Feb-22	31-Jan-23
FUND INFLOWS	9	568,528.22	360,713.68
FUND OUTFLOWS	10	467,990.46	246,111.39
NET FUND BALANCE		100,537.76	114,602.29

** See Note to Financial Statements*

Prepared by:


GIRLIE D. MANGILIMUTAN
Finance and Admin Officer

Noted by:


LISA A. PAGUNTALAN
Executive Director

PHILIPPINES BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION FOUNDATION, INC.
c/o NFEFI Compound, South Capitol Road, Bacolod City
Statement of Financial Position
As of February 28, 2023
(In Philippine Currency)

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING EXPENSES	28-Feb-23	31-Jan-23
Net Fund Inflows	100,537.76	114,602.29
Adjustment:		
Depreciation		
Operating Income Before Working Capital Changes	<u>100,537.76</u>	<u>114,602.29</u>
Decrease (Increase) in:		
Trade Receivables	195,034.50 -	300,000.00
Increase (Decrease) in:		
Accounts Payable	- 22,022.15	23,210.00
Accrued Expenses		
NET CASH FROM (USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES	273,550.11 -	162,187.71
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING/ FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Purchased of Property and Equipment	- 34.50	34.50
Increase or Decrease in Investment		
Increase in Donation		
Increase in Fund Balance		
NET CASH USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES	- 34.50	34.50
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	273,515.61 -	162,153.21
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS , Beginning	2,217,996.16	2,380,149.37
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS , Ending	2,491,511.77	2,217,996.16

Prepared by:

GIRLIE D. MANGILIMUTAN
Finance and Admin Officer

Noted by:

LISA J. PAGUNTALAN
Executive Director

PHILIPPINES BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION FOUNDATION, INC.

c/o NFEFI Compound, South Capitol Road, Bacolod City

Statement of Changes in Fund Balances

As of February 28, 2023

(In Philippine Currency)

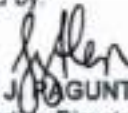
	28-Feb-23	31-Jan-23
Beginning Fund Balances	16,436,253.32	16,321,851.03
Decrease in Fund Balance		
Total		
Net Cash Inflows/Outflows	100,537.76	114,602.29
Fund Balance, End	16,536,791.08	16,436,253.32

** See Note to Financial Statements*

Prepared by:


GIRLIE D. MANGILIMUTAN
Finance and Admin Officer

Noted by:


LISA J. RAGUNTALAN
Executive Director

CONSERVATION PARTNERS

Aklan Environment and Natural Resources Officer (AKENRO)
Aklan State University - Banga campus
Alliance for Zero Extinction
ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity
Asian Species Action Partnership
BACIWA Prime Water
Bacolod City National High School
Bacolod City Traffic Authority Office
Bacolod Paramount Industrial and Electrical
Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Farmers Association, Inc.
Biodiversity Conservation Society of the Philippines (BCSP)
Biodiversity Finance Initiative Project
Biodiversity Management Bureau
Camp Ads
Capiz Environment and Natural Resources Office (CapENRO)
Capiz State University (CapSU)
Carlos Hilado Memorial State College
Cebu Association of Biology Students, Inc.
Cebu Normal University
Cebu Technological University - Argao Campus
Center for Conservation Initiative
City Environment Management Office of San Carlos City
City Environment and Natural Resources Office - Cadiz City
Colegio San Agustin - Bacolod
Co's Digital Flora of the Philippines
Cuernos de Negros Mountaineers
DENR CENRO Bago City
DENR CENRO Cebu City
DENR CENRO Kabankalan City
DENR CENRO Midsayap
DENR PENRO Aklan
DENR PENRO Antique
DENR PENRO Negros Occidental
DENR PENRO Negros Oriental
DENR PENRO Siquijor
DENR PENRO Zamboanga Sibugay
DENR Regional Office 12
DENR Regional Office 6
DENR Regional Office 7
Department of Education - Negros Occidental
Eco Explorations Inc.
Energy Development Corporation - BINHI (Negros)
Environment and Natural Resources Division (ENRD) - Negros Oriental
Environment and Natural Resources Office of Cadiz City
Environment and Natural Resources Office of Cebu City
Foundation for the Philippine Environment

CONSERVATION PARTNERS

Friends of the Environment in Negros Oriental
Gawahon Eco-Park
Gerry Roxas Foundation
Handumanan National High School
Haribon Foundation Inc.
Hinobaan Environment and Natural Resources Office
IUCN Hornbill Species Specialist Group
Kapunungan sa Mag-uuma sa Yutang Lasangnon sa Bulalakaw
La Consolacion College - Bacolod
LEAR Corporation
Local Government Unit of Alcoy
Local Government Unit of Bacolod City
Local Government Unit of Bago City
Local Government Unit of Banisilan
Local Government Unit of Binalbagan
Local Government Unit of Cadiz City
Local Government Unit of Culasi
Local Government Unit of Dalaguete
Local Government Unit of Dumaguete City
Local Government Unit of EB Magalona
Local Government Unit of Himamaylan City
Local Government Unit of Hinigaran
Local Government Unit of Hinobaan
Local Government Unit of Ilog
Local Government Unit of Kabankalan City
Local Government Unit of Panglima Sugala
Local Government Unit of Pulupandan
Local Government Unit of San Enrique
Local Government Unit of San Jose
Local Government Unit of San Remigio
Local Government Unit of Silay City
Local Government Unit of Tayabas City
Local Government Unit of Valladolid
Local Government Unit of Victorias City
Mabuwaya Foundation, Inc.
Mambukal Resort and Wildlife Sanctuary
Mindanao State University - Ilagan Institute of Technology
Mindanao State University-Tawi-Tawi College of Technology and Oceanography
Mindoro Biodiversity Conservation Foundation, Inc.
Ministry of Environment Natural Resources and Energy - BARMM
Municipal Environment and Natural Resource Office - Hinobaan
National Commission on Indigenous Peoples
Negros Occidental Coastal Wetlands Conservation Area Management Alliance
Negros Occidental High School
Negros Oriental State University
NOMAD Outdoor Gears

CONSERVATION PARTNERS

North Carolina Zoo

PAMO - Agusan Marsh Wildlife Sanctuary

PAMO - Apo Island Protected Landscape and Seascape

PAMO - Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park

PAMO - Mt. Banahaw - San Cristobal Protected Landscape

PAMO - Mt. Kanlaon Natural Park

PAMO - Northern Negros Natural Park

PAMO - Olango Island Wildlife Sanctuary

PAMO - Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park

Philippine Eagle Foundation Inc.

Philippine Initiative for Conservation of Envi. (PhilinCon)

Philippine Marine Corps - Armed Forces of the Philippines

Philippine Normal University - Visayas

Philippines Reef and Rainforest Conservation Foundation Inc.

Provincial Disaster Risk and Reduction Management Office

Provincial Environment and Management Office (PEMO)

Provincial Environment Natural Resources Energy Tawi-Tawi

Provincial Local Government Unit of Aklan

Provincial Local Government Unit of Antique

Provincial Local Government Unit of Capiz

Provincial Local Government Unit of Negros Occidental

Provincial Local Government Unit of Negros Oriental

Provincial Planning and Development Office - Negros Occidental

Provincial Tourism Office of Negros Occidental

Schools Division of Sipalay City

Silliman University

Sitio Bugtong Lubi Indigenous Peoples Farmers Association Inc. (SBLIPFAI)

Southeast Asia Regional Initiatives for Community Empowerment

STI West Negros University

Talarak Foundation Inc.

TawiTawi Advocates for Wildlife Support Initiative Rangers (TAWSI Rangers)

Technological University of the Philippines-Visayas

Tourism Office of Victorias City

United Nations Development Programme

United States Agency for International Development-Philippines

University of Antique

University of Negros Occidental - Recoletos

University of San Carlos

University of St. La Salle - Bacolod

University of the Philippines - Mindanao

University of the Philippines - Manila

University of the Philippines - Visayas

Wetlands International - Philippines

Wild Bird Photographer of the Philippines

Zoological Society of London

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MANAGEMENT AND STAFF



Lisa J. Paguntalan
Executive Director



Philip Godfrey C. Jakosalem
Field Operations Director



Andrew Ross T. Reintar
Field Projects Officer



Christian R. Casio
Conservation Education Officer



Girlie D. Mangilimutan
Administrative and Finance Officer



Kahlael R. Omero
Project Site Coordinator (SWN)



Erika A. Lobaton
Administrative Assistant

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Herpetologist



Dr. Pieter Pelser
Botanist



Desmond Allen
Bat Biologist



Dr. Tammy Midlenstein
Bat Biologist



Dr. Julie F. Barcelona
Botanist



Dr. Juan Carlos T. Gonzalez
Ornithologist

RESEARCH FELLOWS



Yñigo del Prado
Herpetologist



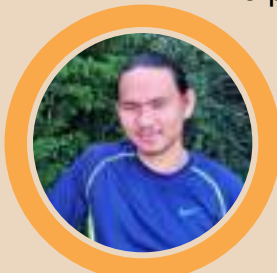
Manulito Sandoval
Herpetologist



Val B. Salares
Botanist



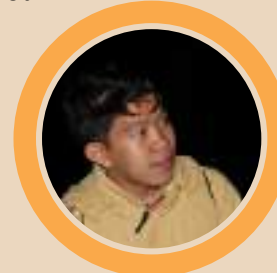
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Arkady A. Tahil
Botanist



Javica Faye Canag
Bat Biologist



Andrie Bon Flores
Herpetologist

FIELD TECHNICIANS



Lorry Alcala



Pedro Villarta



James Villalon

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2022 PhilBio Annual Report
Philippines Biodiversity Conservation Foundation, Inc.

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