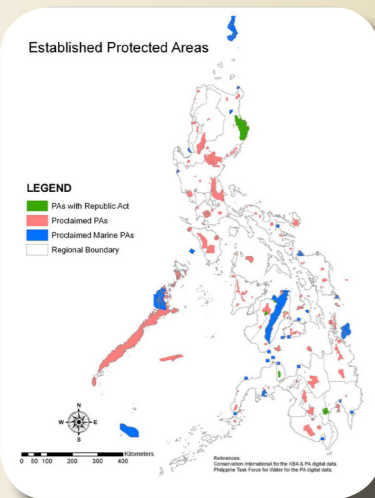


# ...Working at seascape scales

## South China Sea Seascape: Developing a management and investment plan

Seascapes are large, multiple-use marine areas, defined scientifically and strategically, in which government authorities, private organizations, and other stakeholders cooperate to conserve the diversity and abundance of marine life and to promote human well-being. The Philippines has long been implementing actions to manage the first priority seascape in the country, the Sulu-Sulawesi Marine Ecoregion (SSME). CI-Philippines through the CTSP carries on its large-scale conservation efforts in the development of another priority seascape, the Philippine South China Sea Seascape (SCSS). The SCSS has been selected as the next priority seascape due to its unique array of uses and resources. CTSP aims to develop a management and investment plan for the SCS by 2013.



## Assessing Marine Protected Areas and the National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS)

Guidelines are needed to help monitor the management effectiveness of marine protected areas and inform local and national leaders on where we stand with our commitments for conservation. With assistance from other NGOs and the academe, a Marine Protected Area Management Effectiveness Assessment Tool (MPA MEAT) was developed as a guided evaluation tool. MPA MEAT together with other existing evaluation tools for MPAs will be applied in NIPAS areas to determine current gaps, challenges, and opportunities to improve the management of large marine areas in the NIPAS Act. Results will directly be incorporated in recommendations to enhance the NIPAS and the NIPAS Act itself.

## Capacity-building of Higher Education Institutes to bring science closer to local managers

CI extends assistance to LGUs in their implementation of the CTI National Plan of Action (NPOA) by expanding the sources of their technical assistance, forming a tighter linkage between local governments and higher educational institutions in the area, and networking of mentee institutions with mentor institutions or Centers of Excellence in the marine sciences. An apprenticeship program is being developed to build skills, capacities, and competencies of 50 mentees from other Higher Education Institutions on marine science with direct application to the needs of respective local government units in their area. The ultimate aim is to make science more accessible and readily applicable to coastal resource managers at the local level.



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CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL:  
SUPPORTING THE

# CTI

FOR CORAL REEFS, FISHERIES, AND FOOD SECURITY  
IN THE PHILIPPINES





Conservation International is one of the three international non-government organizations who are helping the National CTI Coordinating Committee meet its targets as stipulated in the National Plan of Action. Funded by the USAID, CI has been working at various levels of governance to fast-track the realization of goals for the Philippines in the CTI under the Coral Triangle Support Partnership (CTSP) Program.



# Working at local scales: The Verde Island Passage...

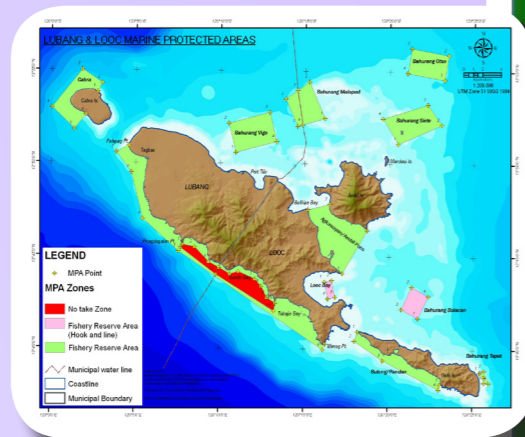
## Piloting mangrove rehabilitation efforts to safeguard coastal communities from the impacts of climate change

In the Municipality of Calatagan, CI-Philippines helped the local communities establish their own mangrove nurseries with the aim of enhancing the mangrove cover in their municipality as a climate change adaptation response. The mangrove rehabilitation in Calatagan is also linked to tourism developments and serves as an educational destination for students and tourists alike. To date, more than 130,000 mangrove seedlings have been planted in Barangay Balibago and Barangay Quilitisan. A private-public partnership with SMART Telecommunications and provides additional boost to the efforts of the local communities to develop their mangroves as a front line defense against climate change impacts.

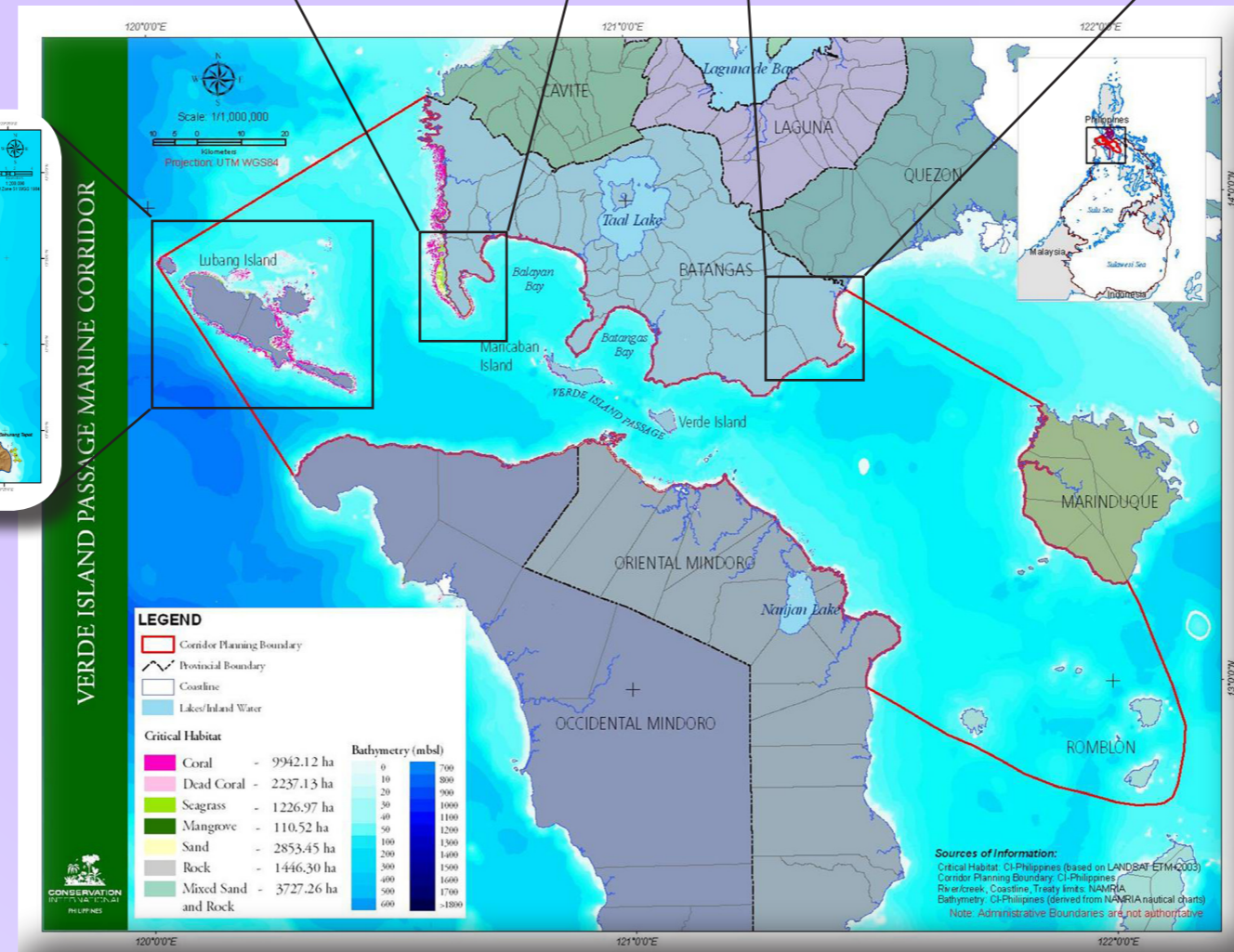


## Climate-SMART MPA and Climate Change Adaptation Plan for the Lubang Island

The Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape (SSS) Project has established a large (1,150 ha.) no-take Marine Protected Area (MPA) within the waters of Lubang Island and supported by several Fishery Management Areas (FMAs) (total of 13,335 ha). These protected areas have also been dubbed as the first climate-SMART (Sustainably Managed, Adaptive, Resilient, and Targeted) MPA in the country. The Lubang-Looc Climate-SMART MPA was launched in April 7, 2010 in cooperation with the Philippine Coast Guard, SMART Telecommunications, and the local governments of Lubang and Looc.

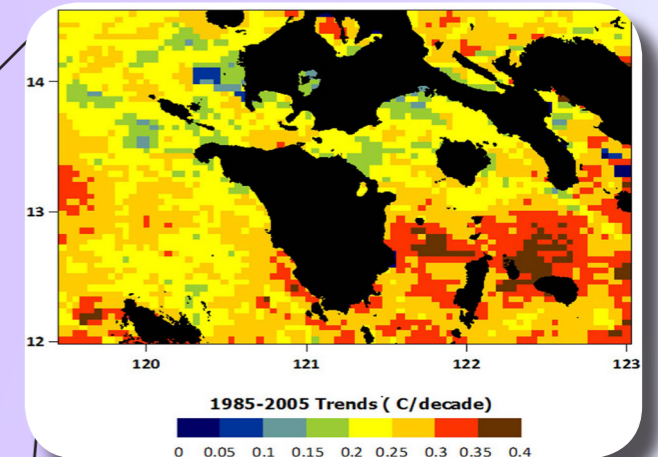


For the next three years, CI-Philippines will close the full circle by ensuring sustainable management and building climate change adaptation within the integrated coastal management plan of Lubang and Looc.



## "Dulong" fishing as entry to Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management

In San Juan, Batangas, CI-Philippines is working with the local government and fisherfolk organizations to answer basic questions on a traditional fry fishery that has evolved into medium-scale fishing operations during certain months, extracting tons and tons of post-larval stages of fishes. In cooperation with the local fisherfolk, a small community-based monitoring program has been established to monitor catches of dulong throughout the year to determine peaks in catches and identify the different species comprising the "dulong" catches which appears to change across the year. Excessive fishing of fish larvae or post-larval stages can cause growth overfishing of the species. By-catch of non-target fish larvae can also occur at certain times of the year. A small fish cage has been set up with the local government's support as a communications tool to inform dulong fishers that these fishes are immature and will still grow.



## Climate change vulnerability assessments for Philippine coasts

CI-Philippines' CTSP continues to develop and apply climate change vulnerability assessments (VA) in coastal areas around the CTSP priority geographies. CI's climate change program has been developing VA methods together with local scientists in the Philippines in an effort to guide climate change adaptation plans in the country. Climate change vulnerability assessment of the entire Verde Island Passage, an area of high biodiversity, resulted in identification of key areas for protection. CTSP continues these

