



MINDORO

Biodiversity

January-March 2017

The official newsletter of Mindoro Biodiversity Conservation Foundation Inc.

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The Chairman's Report 2016

A year of transition and moving forward

There have been significant changes in the organization last year; changes in Trustees, hence the Officers of the Board and the Executive Director. Our Vision and Mission statements have also been revised.

In August 2016, Mr. Facundo S. Roco tendered his resignation as Chairman of the Board. He has been the Chairman since the Foundation was registered in 2008. His contribution to the overall strategy, organizational structure and program prioritization lead to the growth of MBCFI. Following his resignation was the resignation of Dr. Neil Aldrin Mallari as Executive Director, who, in the same way has contributed to advancement of the organization. The Foundation is indebted to them and we pledge to build up on the good work they have done. Our heartfelt thanks to both.

As we were starting a new chapter, the Vision and Mission were reviewed to ensure that we can rally the organization around a shared future state.



We acknowledge the generous sponsorship of the Malampaya Joint Venture partners, lead by it's Operator, Shell Philippines Exploration BV and it's partners, Chevron Malampaya LLC, Philippine National Oil Company Exploration Corporation and the Department of Energy. We however will aim to widen the funding base as we go forward and aim to have a Mindoro Bio-diversity conservation center which will be central to this. Thus, apart from our Flagship programs, we aim to have our home base firmly established in Mindoro.

During this transition, one thing has not changed – our commitment to implement conservation programs which reflects the quality of work and dedication of everyone. To showcase this, allow me to present to you the highlights of our flagship programs in 2016:

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OUR VISION

Sustained conservation of Mindoro's natural treasures for future generations.

OUR MISSION

To lead scientific research and catalyze collaborative and participative conservation efforts in key biodiversity areas of Mindoro resulting in empowerment of Mindoreños through increased awareness and care.

RESEARCH Program

(Resources, Environment, Species and Ecological Assessment for Responsible Change)

Site Profiling and Conservation Management Planning

In 2016, MBCFI focused mainly on enhancing the biodiversity monitoring system (BMS) by providing training on the traditional biodiversity monitoring system with an innovative approach using the cybertracker application and the SMART Software application. Through this innovation, it is easier for the bantay gubat members to monitor the sites and plot their findings directly in the computer. MBCFI provided this training to the bantay gubat members, forest rangers and DENR staff of Mts. Iglit-Baco National Park (MIBNP), Ilin and Ambulong Islands.



We conducted the tagging of Philippine Teak in Ilin Island where this species is found. This will enable us to monitor closely the status of each individual tree specially that it is categorized as critically endangered species by the IUCN.



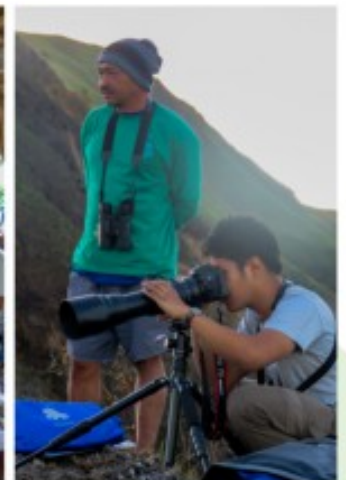
Mindoro Biodiversity

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MBCFI provided technical assistance to the Protected Area Office in the conduct of the Annual Asian Waterbird Census. The team counted over 10,000 individuals of waterbirds and a report was submitted to the DENR-Biodiversity Management Bureau which has been forwarded to Wetlands International as part of the global waterbird monitoring programme called the International Waterbird Census.



Our biologists, Geoff Tabaranza and Bob Natural participated in the Annual Tamaraw Count manning 1 of the 18 survey points for 5 days. The total Tamaraw count in 2016 is 413.



MBCFI not only focused on the wildlife flora and fauna, but also on the communities within our priority sites. Perception and wood demand surveys have been conducted in Mt. Halcon, Mts. Iglit-Baco and Mt. Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary (MCWS). Results of the perception survey help us understand their current knowledge, practices and perceptions regarding biodiversity and conservation. Wood demand surveys help us assess the supply and demand of wood in the area.



MISSION Program

(Mindoro Island Symbolic Species Icons of Nature)

Community formation and strengthening



A total of 11 people's organizations have been organized and registered with DOLE. These groups are our key players in forest restoration and protection activities.

In our forest restoration activities, growth chambers were established in 4 barangays of Ilin and Ambulong Islands and in 2 barangays of MIBNP. Each chamber contains a minimum of 1,500 wildlings. There are two (2) open nurseries established in Barangays Bayanan and Lantuyang, Mt. Halcon. Wildlings from these nurseries will be planted at the identified restoration and woodlot sites. To date, we have seven (7) hectares of forest restoration areas established in Ilin and Ambulong Islands and twenty one (21) hectares of woodlot plantation areas established in Ilin and Ambulong Islands, and MIBNP.

Regular forest protection activities are conducted by Bantay Gubat members (69) across all sites. A total of four (4) enforcement plans were drafted covering four priority sites (Ilin and Ambulong Islands, MIBNP, Mt. Halcon and MCWS). We facilitated the integration of biodiversity protection and biodiversity conservation in Barangay Development Plans of five (5) barangays in Ilin and Ambulong Islands. The Protected Area Community Based Resource Management Agreement of MCWS has been drafted with our assistance.

To strengthen the capacities of our stakeholders in the effective management of priority areas, we conducted series of trainings needed by each community. Among the trainings conducted are:

- 1 Project Development and Proposal writing attended by 31 PO members from Ilin and Ambulong Islands and MIBNP
- 2 Learning Visit of twenty eight (28) members of Ilin and Ambulong Bantay Gubat to Polillo Islands Local Conservation Area (LCA)
- 3 Rapid savings mobilization technique was introduced. Savings were used as capital fund for the Sari-sari store and micro-credit project of the IP communities in MIBNP
- 4 Simple Book Keeping and Accounting training was provided for PO members in MIBNP.
- 5 Alternative learning sessions were conducted in MIBNP to teach officers of the Buhid Mangyans on how to read, write and understand basic arithmetic
- 6 Wildlife Enforcement Officer Trainings were given to Bantay Gubat members from 4 priority sites of MBCFI
- 7 Basic Life Support and First Aid Training conducted in Mt. Halcon
- 8 Basic Ecology, ENR laws and Climate change conducted in Mt. Halcon and MIBNP
- 9 Simple Book Keeping and Accounting training was provided for PO members in MIBNP.



The following trainings have been given to provide additional forest-friendly livelihood options for IP communities:

- 1 Bio intensive gardening with vermicomposting demo site established in MIBNP
- 2 Agroforestry Production and Post Production System Training is a combination of technology and traditional practices on upland rice and vegetable farming conducted in MIBNP
- 3 Organic Agriculture training was conducted in Mt. Halcon
- 4 Mountaineering Guide Training was given in Mt. Halcon

We provided assistance in improving the two (2) multi-purpose bunkhouses in MIBNP which can be used by the Mangyan communities for meetings and other activities.

CARE Program

(Conservation Awareness Raising and Education)

IEC Program

We have done tremendous efforts in promoting the organization in various gatherings. We co-hosted the Biodiversity Conservation Society of the Philippines Annual Symposium which was attended by more than 300 local and international participants. We participated in other international and national conferences such as Environment Summits, Cave Congress and Asia Forestry Week. We took the lead in organizing conservation-related events and school-based activities in the islands of Mindoro. These strategies are effective in increasing the awareness of the Mangyans, non-IP communities and other stakeholders to generate support in the conservation and protection of our environment and its biodiversity.



Policy and decision-making

MBCFI is acknowledged in the conservation community on a national level, hence, we were invited to provide input on policy and decision making fora. In 2016, we provided input to the following initiatives:

- 1 Philippine National List of Threatened Faunal Species
- 2 Philippine Red Data Book version 2
- 3 National Guidelines and Protocols for birdwatching
- 4 MIMAROPA Regional Development Council
- 5 Oriental Mindoro Provincial Environment Council
- 6 Sustainable Integrated Area Development and Management



With these accomplishments, we continue to provide our stakeholders with programs highlighting the different aspects of biodiversity conservation and technical support to the agencies mandated to enhance environment policies. Let us continue to raise environmental awareness for a sustainable environment for the benefit of current and future generations. Sustainable development intertwined with biodiversity conservation!

We won't be able to accomplish all of these without the support of government agencies and partners. The MBCFI received core funding support from the Malampaya Joint Venture Partners with a total amount of Php 15,224,000 in 2016. The Philippine Tropical Forest Conservation Foundation has co-funded our Ilin and Ambulong Islands Forest Conservation Project amounting to Php 1,779,000. The German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation in partnership with the DENR has granted MBCFI Php 367,796 for the Multi-sectoral partnership combating forest fragmentation of MCWS. Approximately 1.5M pesos worth of counterparts (in kind) was received from other partners. The strong relationship we cultivated for years with our partners helped us in the implementation of our programs. Like I always say "Kayang-kaya, kung sama-sama!"

As we move forward, we will relentlessly implement our goals, ensure we have a strong basic sustainable organization model, ensuring we live our core values, retain our focus on safety and work always with a continuous improvement mindset. That will ensure that we will bring MBCFI to a greater height with vigor and determination. I am confident that if we do this together, our performance will improve and we can make a difference. We will take on the challenge to sustain the operations of the Foundation in an even stronger and more reliable organization.

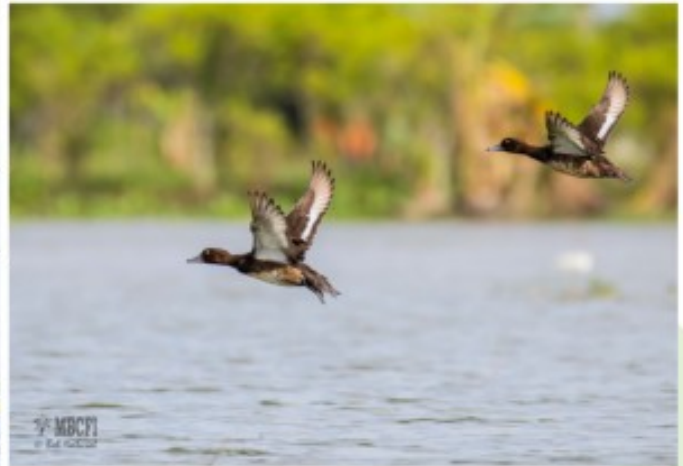
I thank our partners for your support and I commend the Board and our staff for their hard work and commitment.



Tufted Ducks top-billed the 2017 Asian Waterbird Census at Naujan Lake

A total of 6,932 individuals consists of thirty six (36) species of waterbirds were counted during the conduct of the Asian Waterbird Census on January 20, 2017 in Naujan Lake National Park (NLNP)

Tufted Ducks (*Aythya fuligula*) was the most abundant species with 4,833 individuals followed by Whiskered Terns (*Chlidonias hybrida*) with 1,351 individuals.



The AWC team was composed of DENR MIMAROPA Regional officials, Naujan Lake National Park Protected Area Superintendent and staff, biologists from Mindoro Biodiversity Conservation Foundation, Inc. and volunteer students from different schools in Manila and Oriental Mindoro. The Asian Waterbird Census, initiated in 1987 in the Indian subcontinent, is now celebrated annually and has grown rapidly and parallel to the International Waterbird Census in other regions like Africa, Europe, West Asia, the Neotropics and the Caribbean.

There is a noticeable drop in this year's count compared to the 10,821 individuals recorded in 2016. Unfavorable weather conditions over the past weeks and the high tide during the day of the census that inundated low lying marshes and agricultural fields were seen as factors that directly affected the fewer individuals counted in the area. Other factors that might have affected the number of waterbirds seen in NLNP were climate change and pollution.

Continuous protection and enforcement of environmental laws by the Bantay Lawa (Lake Watch) to curb illegal activities within the lake is recommended. Residents around the lake are also encouraged to practice sustainable agriculture and proper waste management to reduce pollution from agricultural and domestic waste.



Wetlands Day celebration around Naujan Lake National Park

With the theme "Wetlands for Disaster Risk Reduction", the annual event was led by Naujan Lake National Park - Protected Area Office (NLNP - PAO) together with MBCFI, Haribon Foundation, Divine Word College of Calapan (DWCC) and DENR regional office. Students from Mindoro State College of Agriculture and Technology (MINSAT), Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP)- Bansud Campus and, officials and volunteers from lakeside communities experienced a different twist in celebrating the World Wetlands Day (WWD) on February 2, 2017 at Naujan Lake National Park, a wetlands of international importance to the Ramsar List since November 12, 1999.



Instead of the usual lecture and birding session on site, a total of sixty (60) participants enjoyed the iBangklase, an innovative, nature-based educational project of DENR and DWCC. Participants experienced the four (4) hour ride around the lake traversing the municipality of Victoria, Naujan, Socorro and Pola in Oriental Mindoro.

Speakers from NLNP-PAO, MBCFI and Haribon Foundation emphasized in their presentations the vital roles of wetlands in reducing the impacts of extreme weather events such as typhoons, floods and droughts in communities, and in helping build resilience.

World Wetlands Day is an annual event established to raise awareness about the importance and value of wetlands for humanity and the planet. It is held every 2nd of February, marking the date of the adoption of the Convention of Wetlands on February 2, 1971 in the Iranian city of Ramsar.

Mindoro Biodiversity Conservation Foundation took home the silver!

In the recently concluded 52nd Anvil Awards organized by the Public Relation Society of the Philippines (PRSP), MBCFI bagged a Silver Award under the category of Public Relations Programs for Environment/Science and Technology for raising environmental awareness and implementing conservation initiatives in Mindoro, which is one of the global biodiversity conservation priority areas. It was selected from more than 400 entries. The event was held on March 10, 2017 at the Makati Shangri-La Hotel and attended by more than 80 companies of social practitioners all over the Philippines.



The project that gave MBCFI another notch on its belt is the Ilin and Ambulong Forest Conservation Project, funded by Philippine Tropical Forest Conservation Foundation (PTFCF) and Malampaya Joint Venture Partners. The project's main objective is the restoration of the islands' forest which is home to Philippine Teak (*Tectona philippinensis*), which can only be found in Ilin and Ambulong Islands, San Jose, Occidental Mindoro and in Lobo, Batangas.

The prestigious award is annually given to outstanding public relations programs, tools and practitioners that provide significant impact and improvements to society.



Experts Meeting in Preparation for the Convention on Migratory Species 2017

Different environmental organizations and government agencies gathered together at Brentwood Suites in Quezon City on February 20, 2017 to discuss the substantial preparation for the Convention for Migratory Species (CMS) – Conference of the Parties (COP) 12. The meeting was chaired by the Biodiversity Management Bureau Assistant Director Antonio Manila.



The organizations that attended the meeting were given specific task and work on respective proposals for the COP: (1) Marine Protected Area Network was given to Asean Center for Biodiversity (ACB); (2) the uplisting of the whale shark from CMS Appendix II to Appendix I was given to Large Marine Vertebrates Project (LAMAVE), Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) and Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB); (3) Wetlands International, BirdLife and Haribon will work on amendment of CMS Appendices on migratory birds; (4) Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape proposal will be handled by BFAR, GIZ, Conservation International-Philippines, BMB-CMD taking the lead and lastly; (5) BMB-NPD will take the lead in ecotourism's best practices and guidelines of Malapascua for thresher sharks, Donsol for whale shark and Apo Island for marine turtles.

Proposals will be submitted on May 25, 2017, a total of 105 days prior to the Conference of Parties. Attending groups agreed to the deadline and will observe schedules but BMB Supervising Ecosystems Management Specialist Anson Tagtag proposed to disseminate details and deadline for submission of concept proposals but those interested can submit their intent and proposal as early as possible.

Also, BMB will disseminate requirements and standards regarding the exhibit which will feature conservation efforts and best practices in the Philippines.

Strengthening Partnerships and Collaborations

MBCFI believes in participative and collaborative biodiversity conservation, and to kick start our 2017, we gave a visit and courtesy calls to our partner government agencies to strengthen our partnerships and collaborations with them. These meetings aimed at updating these concerned agencies on our accomplishments from the previous year and provide them with an overview of our plans for the current year. On January 4, 2017, MBCFI Executive Director Grace Diamante and Conservation Awareness Raising and Education (CARE) Program Manager Kyle Cielo pay a visit to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)- MIMAROPA Officer-in-Charge Regional Director Carlito Tuballa and discussed the priorities of each agencies and how both parties can cooperate for a wider scale biodiversity conservation efforts in Mindoro.



Another meeting was conducted between MBCFI's Executive Director and National Commission for Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) Regional Director Roberto L. Almonte. The agenda discussed were the accreditation, filing of Free and Informed Prior Consent (FPIC) for the scientific-based research activities that MBCFI is slated to accomplish this year and updates of the activities conducted, and programs and initiatives lined-up this year which involve indigenous peoples.

Aside from strengthening the biodiversity conservation collaborations among lead agencies concerned in environment and indigenous peoples, MBCFI also recognizes the role of the Department of Education (DepEd) in our advocacies. In February 24, 2017, MBCFI Team visited the DepEd Regional Office and discussed together with the Assistant Regional Director Danilo E. Despi and Legal Officer Atty. Suzette Medina the accomplishments and plans of the foundation on its Strengthening Environmental Education for Development (SEED) Program. Moreover, to strengthen further the partnership, the parties discussed the content of the Memorandum of Agreement which will be signed on the agreed schedule of both parties.

With lots of projects lined up this year for the conservation of biodiversity in the Islands of Mindoro, MBCFI opted to collaborate with World Wildlife Fund- Philippines and D'Aboville Foundation, Inc. The collaborative meeting was held on January 16, 2017 between MBCFI's Executive Director Grace Diamante and RESEARCH Program Manager Geoff Tabaranza, WWF's CEO and President Jose Palma and Chrisma Salao, and DAFI's Emmanuel Schultz at the WWF office in Quezon City. The purpose of the meeting is the implantation of programs of each organization for the Tamaraws and Mts. Iglit-Baco National Park.

Moreover, a meeting between MBCFI and Mindoro State College of Agriculture and Technology (MINSAT) was held on March 8, 2017 which discussed a possible partnership in the future, specifically on: 1) Allowing the students of MINSAT to join the MBCFI team on the conduct of researches in Mindoro as research assistants, zoologist and biologist. 2) Staff and extension officers of the state college to facilitate the conduct of trainings regarding agroforestry and bio-intensive gardening. It was agreed upon during the meeting that the two parties shall enter to an agreement for a strong partnership for the conservation of biodiversity and upliftment of the lives of upland communities in Mindoro. The Memorandum of Agreement between two organizations is now being drafted.

Lunch and Learn: In Focus: Mindoro's Treasures

More than 30 employees of Shell Philippines Exploration B.V. (SPEX BV) attended the MBCFI Lunch and Learn on March 17, 2017, who had a first-hand experience on how MBCFI operates in the field during scientific research and surveys. MBCFI set up research equipment like mist nets, harp and cage traps inside the conference room and showed the participants how to properly handle and measure a captured species.



In addition, Foundation's core programs were presented. A photo exhibit of the newly recorded species in 2015 and published technical reports were also set-up.

Moreover, two (2) flagship species mascots, the endemic Tamaraw and Mindoro Hornbill roamed around the offices of SPEX from 17th to 20th floor of the Asian Star Building and gamely posed for photos.



MBCFI Continuously Supports Indigenous and Local Communities in Mindoro

MBCFI continuously provides support to the indigenous and local communities in Mindoro, specifically those from the 4 priority sites of the Foundation, namely Mt. Halcon, Mts. Iglit-Baco National Park, Mt. Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary and, Ilin and Ambulong Islands. Hard working MISSION program manager and staff regularly attend monthly meetings to provide technical assistance on policy, system and procedures formulation, development and action plan preparation, and project monitoring.



The partnership between communities were strengthened through the signing of conservation agreements. These agreements contained roles and responsibilities of each party (MBCFI and POs) in the conservation and management of each priority areas.



Conservation and Management of Naujan Lake National Park

On March 8, 2017, MBCFI attended the 1st Quarter Regular Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) meeting at Naujan Lake National Park (NLNP). During the meeting, PAMB resolution no. 2 Series of 2017 has been endorsed for MBCFI to do the following:

- 1 assist in the conduct of the Survey of Registered Protected Area Occupants (SRPAO)
- 2 prepare Protected Area Suitability Assessment
- 3 finalize technical description/boundary of the PA and its management category
- 4 prepare Initial Protected Area Plan
- 5 conduct public consultation for the proposed declaration of the NLNP under the NIPAS
- 6 draft the proposed bill for the PA and
- 7 update the draft PA Management and Ecotourism Plans

It was agreed that DENR and MBCFI will enter into a Memorandum of Agreement, which already been drafted, for the conduct of the activities stated above.



Role of Educators in Climate Change Mitigation

MBCFI was invited by Mindoro State College of Agriculture and Technology as Resource Speakers on their seminar "Role of Educators in Climate Change Mitigation." The event was held at MINSCAT Main Campus, Victoria, Oriental Mindoro on March 18, 2017. It was attended by more than 300 students from MINSCAT Main and Calapan Campuses representing undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty members.



The seminar was graced by the MINSCAT President Jessie T. Zamora together with his management staff. The main topics were the following:

- 1 Philippines and Mindoro Biodiversity
- 2 Basic Ecology which was presented by Ms. Kyle Cielo, CARE Program Manager
- 3 Laws regarding Environment and Natural Resources presented by Mr. Geoff Tabaranza, RESEARCH Program Manager
- 4 Climate Change which was discussed by Mr. Bob Natural, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer

A photo exhibit of the newly recorded species by MBCFI was set-up for the appreciation of participants.

#PlungeforPuertoGalera!

This summer, Nestea launched their campaign "Refresh the Beach: Plunge to Pledge" to refresh three (3) Philippine beaches which includes Boracay, La Union and Puerto Galera.

Puerto Galera is very accessible from Metro Manila and is cheaper compared to other beaches in the Philippines, but due to high influx of tourists and investments in the area, degradation of Puerto Galera beaches is inevitable if we don't make a move to conserve it.



The refresh the beach campaign encourages individuals to create a short video citing the beach they support and doing the plunge at the beach, swimming pool, or any other surface where you can do the plunge safely. The beach with the most pledges and posted on FB, Instagram and Twitter until April 23, 2017 will win a beach cleaning package worth One Million Pesos (Php1, 000,000). Runner-ups will receive a movable lifeguard post and beach brooms.

MBCFI was chosen to be the partner NGO of Nestea for Puerto Galera.

On March 25 and 26, MBCFI together with Puerto Galera's Municipal Environmental and Natural Resources Office, Local Government Unit, public school teachers, students, business establishment owners and locals conducted a two-day activity to launch the campaign and persuade everyone to join the cause and plunge for Puerto Galera.

The activity was a success as flocks of visitors willingly participated and happily did the plunges.

PO formation in Mt. Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary

MBCFI facilitated an assembly meeting in Sitio Ulasan, Barangay Harrison on 16 February 2017 attended by 34 indigenous peoples from Sitio Bulakan and Ulasan. The agenda of the meeting is to encourage these individuals to form a people's organization which has been attained by the end of the day. They agreed to register their group with the name, "Pangkalikasang Samahan ng Ulasan," and elected their set of officers by viva voce.



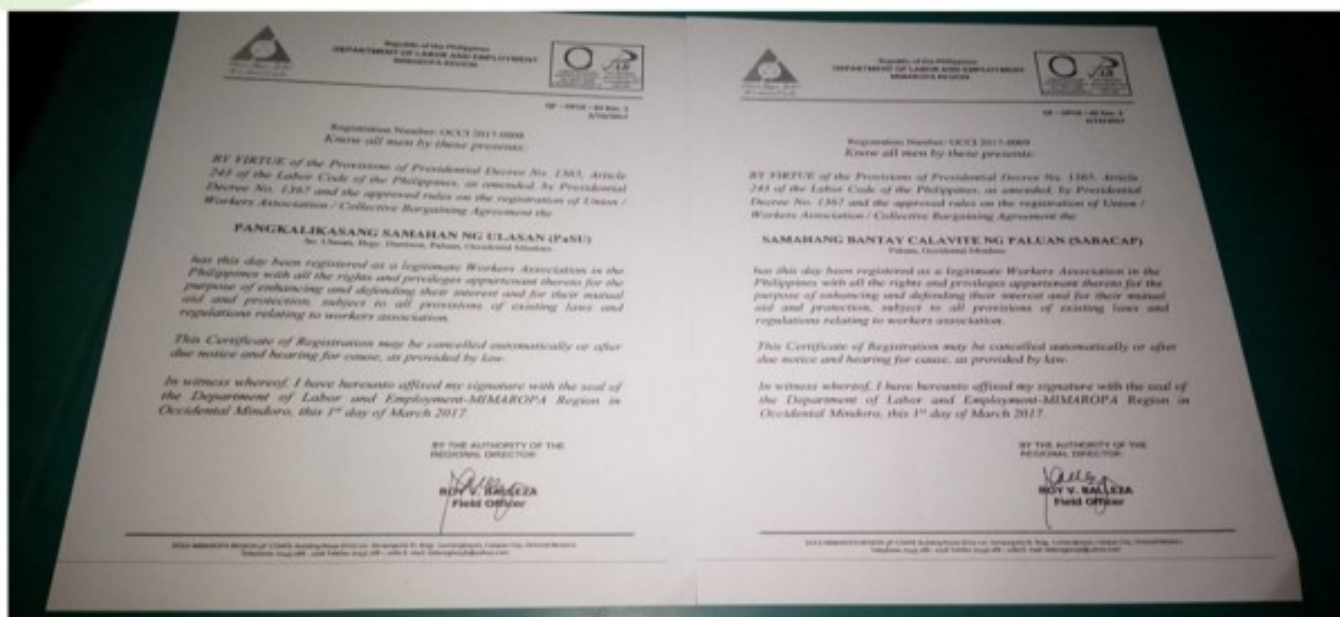
Another meeting with the same agenda was held in Sitio Hinugasan the following day attended by 28 indigenous people. Without any opposition, the community agreed to register their group as "Sagip Bantay Calavite sa Paluan".



After formation of groups, MBCFI facilitated the PO action planning on February 21-22, 2017 at Sitio Pamutusin, Barangay Harrison, Paluan which was attended by 38 officers and members of Pangkalikasang Samahan ng Ulasan and Sagip Bantay Calavite sa Paluan. Each PO formulated a 3-year development plan and 1-year action plan. The two organizations designated 55 members as volunteer forest guards, 20 are from Pangkalikasang Samahan ng Ulasan and 35 from Sagip Bantay Calavite sa Paluan.



After preparing all necessary documents for registration, MBCFI provided assistance in registering the POs with the Department of Labor and Employment on 27 February 2017.



After the DOLE registration, each PO established their own nurseries and growth chambers containing 1000 native trees seedlings. The establishment transpired on March 21, 30 and 31 in Sitio Ulasan, Pamutusin and Hinugasan respectively.

Rattan and Bamboo Propagation Training

MBCFI provided training on Rattan, Uway and Bamboo propagation which aims to promote awareness to farmers on the importance and benefits of planting rattan, uway and bamboo. In addition, this training would eventually help the indigenous peoples to raise yield and income through proper adoption of the technology.



The training was conducted from March 26-29, 2017 at Sitio Hall, Bato-Singit, Manoot, Rizal which was attended by 56 members of the Peoples Organizations in Mts. Iglit-Baco National Park.

The participants learned the proper and efficient way of propagating rattan and bamboo that includes sowing, planting and maintenance. During the training, the participants potted 2500 propagules and sown 2800 seeds of rattan.



Sustaining Forest Conservation Efforts in Ilin and Ambulong Islands

As the support of Philippine Tropical Forest Conservation Foundation ended in 2016, MBCFI decided to continue the project through the support of Malampaya Joint Venture Partners. Restoration and woodlot sites established in the previous years will be maintained and regularly monitored in partnership with POs created.



MBCFI assisted in the establishment of a growth chamber in Ambulong Island which was held last March 04, 2017 with the assistance of 17 SASAMAKA members. The growth chamber contains 500 wildlings of Philippine Teak and 900 native wildlings.



Fire Fighting and Prevention Training in Celebration of the Fire Prevention Month

MBCFI in partnership with the Bureau of Fire Protection and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, conducted a Fire Fighting and Prevention training and First Aid training for the POs of Mt. Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary and Mts. Iglit-Baco National Park.



The training provided the attendees with basic skills on how to prevent forest fires. Participants also learned the basic first aid and lifesaving responses.

In Mts. Iglit-Baco National Park, the training was attended by 60 participants from MAKAPAKA, PSBB, NTPPK, NAGSABAK and NAGBAKAT, 7 fire marshal from Rizal, 1 from DENR, 1 from LGU and 3 MBCFI staff. The facilitators provided lectures, discussion, learning exercises and demonstrations.

In Mt. Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary, the Fire Fighting and First Aid training was held on March 28-29, 2017 which was attended by 50 volunteers from different registered POs.

