



**El Nido
Foundation**

ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT 2020





Republic of the Philippines
Province of Palawan
Municipality of El Nido

OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL MAYOR

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT the El Nido Foundation, Inc. (ENFI), a duly-organized non-government organization (NGO) registered with the Securities and Commission on June 21, 1994, has been assisting the municipal government of El Nido in the implementation of the following programs and projects in the municipality of El Nido, Palawan since 1994. For the year 2020, the following are the programs accomplished by the Foundation, all in accordance with the municipality's Resource Management Framework, specifically the environmental management and development plans as embodied in the municipality's Comprehensive Land and Water Use Plan (CLWUP):

PROGRAMS / PROJECTS

- I.** El Nido Foundation, Inc. (ENFI) continues to fulfill its mandate to El Nido community – improving the quality of life of the communities while preserving the area's natural integrity through implementation of the following activities for the period January to December 2020:

Component I. Conservation Management

- A.** Working towards sustainability of Community-Managed Marine Areas (CMMAs), ENF continued to support two (2) out of 14 barangays with CMMAs in the implementation of their management activities through:
1. Conduct of regular review and updating of CMMA management plan in Barangay Mabini and Corongcorong in collaboration with the LGU – MENRO. Upon presented it and reviewed by the Barangay Council, the Barangay Council in each barangay will be endorsed its updated CMMA management plan through a Barangay Resolution.
 2. Continued conduct of **MPA MEAT (MPA Effectiveness Assessment Tool) Assessment in Barangay Mabini** which were integrated in the updating of CMMA management plans.
- B.** Involvement of ENF as member of the municipality-mandated Technical Working Group for the CLWUP enhancement, through participation in meetings and presentation of related policies to the Sangguniang Bayan which will aid the SB members in the finalization of the updated Zoning Ordinance. The enhanced El Nido CLWUP was presented to the stakeholders during the year. Work on draft CLWUP is still in progress. Once approved, the new plan will help regulate tourism development and address problems in zonation.
- C.** Continued advocacy on responsible ecotourism by supporting mooring buoy installation and rehabilitation activities in the municipality.
- D.** Continued support to El Nido-Taytay Managed Resource Protected Area Management Board (ENTMR-

PAMB) through involvement in policy formulation and advocating for reforms, with the objective of improving Protected Area (PA) management through:

1. Participation in the finalization of ENTRPA Manual of Operation and regular conduct of ENTMRPA – PAMB meetings, both Enbanc and ExeCom. A highlight of ENF's involvement is the lobbying for policies on improving island destination management to conserve and protect frequently visited tourism sites, following the principle of carrying capacity. CENRO–Taytay supported this policy advocacy moves through drafting of resolution and conducting stakeholders' consultations targeting affected stakeholders. As a result, there was a suspension of application of MOA in lieu of SAPA in PA sites, and subsequent cancellation of previously released MOAs by the local DENR offices.
- E. Capacity– building activities conducted / attended by key target local stakeholders and staff, to enhance management strategies in the implementation of CRM-related projects:
1. Participation in various capacity-building activities such as partners meetings and training workshops, which strengthened skills and knowledge of 'CRM managers' and partnership between ENF and other CRM key players in the implementation of CRM-related activities in the municipality.
 2. Served as resource person during In-House Training for MENRO Enforcement Staff to capacitate and raise level of awareness on Environmental Protection and Management.

Component 2. Marine Enforcement

ENF continued to advocate for strengthening of environmental law enforcement and protection to address increasing environmental problems brought by rapid economic growth and urbanization through the following activities:

1. ENF served as key contact point in the transmission of classified information from reports of concerned individuals in barangays where alleged violations such as illegal fishing and indiscriminate mangrove cutting, unregulated sand and gravel quarrying to concerned agencies such as the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development Council Staff (PCSDS), El Nido-Taytay Managed Resource Protected Area Office (ENTMRPA), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Local Government Unit;
2. Participation in related LGU Special Bodies such as the Municipal Fisheries and Aquatic Resource Management Council (MFARMC), Municipal Agriculture and Fisheries Council (MAFC), where actions and/or recommendations on marine and terrestrial environmental problems relating to agricultural and fisheries management / production were advocated to ensure conservation and protection; and in the Municipal Quasi-judicial Body where ENF is involved in coming up with consensual decisions in relation to violations reported by the Municipal Environmental Law Enforcement team (under the MENRO);
3. Helped maintain the **two CMMA guardhouses** in Barangays **Sibaltan** and **New Ibajay** that contribute to marine enforcement operations in the municipality.
4. Regular maintenance of fiber glass boat- *Mamsa*- used in the enforcement that serves as floating station in Tres Marias for 24/7 patrolling in the vicinity of the marine sanctuary and surrounding areas. *Rumpi* speedboat is maintained and regularly used as logistic support for Tres Marias Bantay Dagat and transport service during conduct of Three - Tier biological monitoring within Bacuit Bay area.

Component 3 – Information, Education and Communications

1. Continued IEC support to existing CMMAs through conduct of Community Feedbacking of CMMA results in two (3) barangays with CMMAs: Mabini, Corongcorong and Tres Marias where in a total of 51 community members were reached and informed on the status of their CMMA management and biodiversity. The activity was integrated in the conduct of updating of CMMA management plan and in the course of MPA MEAT assessment. With continued submission of results to the ***Marine Protected Area Support Network (MSN)*** since 2013,
2. Continued to impart and raise awareness on environmental conservation and protection through facilitation of sessions on the UNEP- Green Fins Approach conducted in partners
3. hip with the DENR- PAO. A total of 5 Tour Booking Offices and 42 Tour Guides were reached, imparting values on their roles and responsibilities as partners / stakeholders/ ambassadors of marine environmental conservation and protection.
4. Participated in the municipality –led environmental activities such as International Coastal Clean-up, held in September.

Component 4. Sustainable Livelihood

1. Continued implementation of Environment – Friendly Economic Enterprise Development (EED) activities in El Nido for a comprehensive and integrated approach in the enhancement of agricultural production, thereby benefiting other livelihood activities in the municipality. For 2020, **a total of 1,616 EED beneficiaries** comprising of households, individuals and establishments were reached by ENF. The EED activities implemented are as follows:
 - a. Seed’s beneficiaries – **132 new and 119 continuing**
 - b. **EME distribution (42 individuals, households, and establishments benefiting)** to increase agricultural production as a component of organic farming method, and to help in sanitation requirements of the municipality.
 - c. **Continued operation of ENF Demo Farm (Gulayan, Babuyan, Athp.)** showcasing sustainable agriculture concepts such as organic farming methods in the production of high-value vegetables and in raising organic pigs (“Happy Pig”), thus enabling local communities to become self-sufficient in terms of food production. Improvement of Demo Farm facilities is on-going, as well as community mobilization, in preparation for the implementation of Community-Supported Agriculture (CSA) in the municipality.
 - d. **Continued Marketing linkage** – coordination with Farmers and establishments on their farm produced availability.
2. Continued training and technical assistance on **High Value Organic Vegetables Farming and raising Organic Pigs (“Happy Pig”) in El Nido.**

There are 12 individuals from Barangay Maligaya and Corong-corong imparting technical inputs on high value Organic Vegetables Farming
3. Technical assistance to beneficiaries of Bamboo Treatment Project installed in 3 barangays (Barangay New Ibajay, Villa Paz, and Sibaltan) in El Nido to increase quality of bamboo production and to serve as additional source of income.
 - 20 pieces of Bamboo were treated and sold to consumers.

Component 5 – Institutional and Financial Sustainability

1. Continued support to the ETDF Management Board through participation in meetings wherein improvement in the utilization of ETDF fund was discussed to aid in the implementation of tourism and environment related programs and projects, as mandated in the Ordinance.
2. Continued monitoring of collection and utilization of ETDF as Committee Chair on Project

Monitoring and Evaluation. ETDF collection for the year 2020 amounted to Php 74,765,800.00

3. Continued advocacy on responsible ecotourism by supporting the mooring project. ENF lobbied for additional allocation of Php 2.3M coming from the ETDF savings fund.
4. Continued advocacy on regular allocation of funds from General Fund for CMMMA Projects and other conservation program.

Component 6 – Biodiversity, Research and Monitoring

1. Continued implementation of the **Three-Tier Marine Biological Monitoring Protocol**, developed under the GEF Project, to measure improvement of marine habitat quality and fish abundance in relation to the establishment of CMMAs. The following activities were conducted:
 - For Tier 1 monitoring, on a quarterly basis, **1 out of 29 monitoring activities conducted in nine (9) CMMMA** monitoring sites, wherein a total of **4 community members** were engaged; for Tier 1 monitoring, members ranged from 3 – 9 per monitoring activity, who were able to directly observe fish abundance / status of their CMMAs. LGU-MCRMO staff were encouraged to join in the team to observe and assist in the conduct of community monitoring.
 - For Tier 2 fish and coral reef monitoring, **three (3) out of 27 Tier 2 – fish and coral monitoring activities conducted in eight (9) designated sites** (6 CMMAs, 2 dive sites and fishing site). The Tier 2 monitoring team is composed of ENF staff and is ideally conducted bi-annually by the composite monitoring team (ENF and LGU thru CRM Office) with an average of 4 members per monitoring activity.
2. **Maintained biodiversity databases and information systems** to support policy advocacy and planning. Data gathered are continuously recorded and analyzed and serve as feedback information to communities in 14 barangays during the Community Feedback sessions conducted on the progress of the CMMAs, and are also used to aid policy formulation at the PAMB-LGU level.

II. El Nido Coral Reef Restoration and Education Program

- A. Lobbied for support from the LGU to sustain enforcement activities of Tres Marias Bantay Dagat through access to ETDF funds; enforcement activities are done with **24/7 patrolling by eight (8) Tres Marias Bantay Dagat members**.
- B. To enhance Bantay Dagat operations, orientation and assessment meetings were regularly held during the year.
- C. **Continued enforcement activities with 24/7 patrolling** by active Tres Marias Bantay Dagat members. Assessment meetings were held three times during the year to continuously improve the enforcement system in Tres Marias. Other activities of the Tres Marias Bantay Dagat are as follows: a) maintain mooring buoys installed in the area and b) participate in fish and coral monitoring activities.
- D. **Conducted regular bi-annual Tier 2 (management-level) fish and coral monitoring and underwater photo documentation** in the reef restoration site by the composite monitoring team (composed of representatives from Municipal CRM Office and ENF).

III. Green Fins Initiative – is a United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) conservation initiative implemented in El Nido with ENF as local implementing partner since 2012, with the objective of helping local tourism operators adopt and promote eco-friendly/sustainable diving and snorkeling practices. In its eight year in El Nido as of 2020, the following were implemented:

- Continued Green Fins (GF) awareness activities on responsible ecotourism in El Nido through conduct of **Green Fins Training** for Green Fins membership certification with a total of **5 Tour Booking Offices and 42 Tour guides** reached. The aim of the program is to effect behavioral change towards marine conservation and protection.

IV. Reproductive Health

- Latest data on Contraceptive Prevalence Rate (CPR), an indicator of Modern FP user rate, is constantly increasing with the 2020 data at 80.50% (source: Rural Health Unit – El Nido), given the ready availability of FP commodities in town both at the RHU and in commercial stores (sari-sari stores and pharmacies). ENF continues to promote RH methods.

V. Community-Based Malaria Control Project

- A. For the period (January – December), only one (1) piece bed net was sold amounting to PhP 215.00. Low turnout was happened because of sufficient supply of bed nets from DOH. The amount generated is plowed back to the bed net revolving fund, established by ENF from initial funds set up under an Embassy of Japan grant, to ensure continuous bed net supply in the municipality. **As of end of December 2020 the revolving fund stood at PhP 200,645.23**

→ *Latest data on actual malaria cases in the Municipality of El Nido shows recurrence from zero (0) in 2014 (third consecutive year of El Nido as zero malaria case) to one (1) reported case in 2020.*


Institutional Highlights

- Participated in the joint Asian Development Bank (ADB)-DOT organized stakeholder meeting/workshops
- Participated in the finalization of the management focuses, management zones and prescriptions and the preparations of the 10-year Work & Financial Plan as part of the updating of the Protected Area Management Plan (PAMP) of ENTMRPA
- Continued participation in El Nido Municipal Tourism Council in meetings to discuss ENMTC Manual of Operations.
- Regular attendance in Municipal Fishery Agriculture Council (MAFC) special body, where ENF is a member.
- Participation in the conduct of Solid Waste Management Plan Formulation Workshop, to come up with an action plan for El Nido Solid Waste Management to address the growing waste problem brought about by rapid tourism development, increase in population, and to improve efficiency of garbage collection system.
- Participation in the Municipal Solid Waste Management Board IEC meeting and brainstorming during Search for best barangays and school on the implementation of the SWM Program.
- Participation in the Municipal Development Council (MDC) Meetings, presentation and approval of Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) 2021- 2026.
- Participation in the El Nido Municipal Tourism Council meetings, discussion on El Nido Tourism reopening, marketing and promotions
- Participation in the Local Tourism Development Planning Workshop to crafting the six-years Tourism Development Plan (TDP)

- Participation in the Planning and Workshop for crafting the Agriculture and Fisheries Development Plan to discuss the issues and concerns on Agriculture, Fisheries and Agri-tourism road map of El Nido.
- Participation in the workshop on Management Effectiveness Assessment (MEA) to discuss the management for El Nido-Taytay Managed Resource Protected Area (ENTMRPA) by means of Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT)
- Participation in the ADB-DOT Stakeholders consultation to update projects related information and discussion on ADB's Social Safeguard Policies, Right of Way (ROW) acquisition policies based on RA 10752- Right of Way Act of 2016.
- ENF renewed its accreditation with the Local Government of El Nido in August 2019, thereby keeping the Foundation as an active member in LGU's Municipal Development Council and other special bodies to continue its advocacy in promoting good governance, transparency, and accountability. Special bodies where ENF is a member:
 - Municipal Zoning Board Review Committee (MZBRC)
 - Municipal Agriculture & Fisheries Council (MAFC)
 - Municipal Fisheries Aquatic Resource Management Council (MFARMC)
 - Eco-tourism Development Fee Management Board
 - Municipal Quasi-Judicial Body
 - Municipal Ecological Solid Waste Management Board
 - Municipal Risk Reduction Management Council
 - Bids & Awards Committee
 - Municipal Council for the Protection of Children
 - Municipal Local Health Board
 - Municipal Peace and Order Council
 - Municipal ECAN Board
 - Municipal Local Investment Plan for Health Planning Management Structure
 - Municipal Sewerage Treatment Technical Working Group
 - Municipal Nutrition Council
 - Municipal Anti-Drug Abuse Council
 - Market Committee
 - Technical Working Group of the Comprehensive Land and Water Use Plan
 - Municipal Development Council
 - Technical Working Group of the PAMB Manual of Operation
 - Municipal Law Enforcement Committee
 - Municipal Project Monitoring Committee

This certification is being issued upon the request of El Nido Foundation, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of Memorandum Circular No. 8, Series of 2006, of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Issued this 29 day of APR 2021 in El Nido, Palawan.


Hon. Edna Gacot-Lim
 Municipal Mayor