



**El Nido  
Foundation**

# **ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT 2023**





Republic of the Philippines  
Province of Palawan  
Municipality of El Nido

2024  
**RELEASED**

By *[Signature]*  
Date **APR 29 2024**  
OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL MAYOR  
El Nido, Palawan

**OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL MAYOR**

## CERTIFICATION

**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 below in the municipality of El Nido, Palawan since 1994. For the year 2023, 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

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 the implementation of the following activities for the period January to December 2023:

#### Component 1. Conservation Management

- A. Continued advocacy on responsible ecotourism by supporting mooring buoy installation and rehabilitation activities in the municipality.
- B. Continued support to El Nido Managed Resource Protected Area Management Board (ENMR-PAMB) through involvement in policy formulation and advocating for reforms, with the objective of improving Protected Area (PA) management through: Participation in the regular conduct of ENMRPA – PAMB meetings, enbanc, Project Development Committee and Conflict Resolutions Committee. 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.

Component 2. Marine Enforcement- ENF continues 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:

- A. 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 Managed Resource Protected Area Office (ENMRPA), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Local Government Unit;
- B. 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 wherein ENF is involved in coming up with consensual decisions in relation to violations reported by the Municipal Environmental Law Enforcement team under the Protected Area Management Office (PAMO) and the Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office (MENRO);
- C. 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.

#### Component 3 – Information, Education and Communications

- A. Continued to impart and raise awareness on environmental conservation and protection through facilitation of sessions on the UNEP- Green Fins Approach conducted in partnership with the LGU- Municipal Tourism Office (MTO) and AYALA Foundation. A total of forty-eight (48) new Tour Guides were trained during the Eco Tour Guiding Training held at the Community Learning Center and Dewil Eco Mangrove Association in Barangay New Ibajay, imparting values on their roles and responsibilities as partners / stakeholders/ ambassadors of marine environmental conservation and protection.
- B. Participated in the municipality-led environmental activities such as International Coastal Clean-up and Scuba Basura held in September and October, 2023.
- C. Participated in the municipality-led environmental activities such as Crown of Thorns Sea Star manual collection and injection in popular diving, snorkeling sites and Marine Protected Areas in Bacuit Bay.

#### Component 4. Sustainable Livelihood

- A. 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 2023, the Economic Enterprise Development (EED) provided to farmers/ seeds beneficiaries. A total of 16 new beneficiaries and 1,733 continuing beneficiaries.

## Component 5 – Institutional and Financial Sustainability

- A. Continued support to the ETDF Management Board through participation in meetings wherein improvement in ETDF fund utilization was discussed to aid in the implementation of tourism and environment-related programs and projects, as mandated in the Ordinance.
- B. Continued monitoring of collection and utilization of ETDF as a member on Project Monitoring and Evaluation Committee. The total ETDF collection for the year 2023 is about 79,292,000.00.
- C. Continued advocacy on responsible ecotourism by supporting mooring buoy installation and rehabilitation in Diving and Snorkeling areas in Bacuit Bay.
- D. Continued advocacy on regular allocation of funds from LGU General Fund and Department of Environment and Natural Resources- Protected Area Management Office (DENR-PAMO) for CMMA Projects and other conservation program especially for the fuel and Bantay Dagat salary for the sustainability of Tres Marias operation and management.
- E. Registered to the Philippine Council for NGO Certification. This is key for resource mobilization. The certification is needed for fund raising because this is required by most donors.
- F. Submitted proposal to the Forest Foundation Philippines (FFP) entitled “Strengthening Watershed Governance in the Municipality of El Nido amounting to PhP5,896,840.00. The ENF has a counterpart of PhP1,603,234.00 and the LGU has a counterpart of PhP1,500,000.00. This project aims to protect and manage Bulalacao and Nagkalit-kalit watershed in Barangay Pasadena, a source of potable water for El Nido. The Forest Foundation will be granted the proposal on the first quarter of 2024.

## II. El Nido Coral Reef Restoration and Education Program

- A. Lobbied for support from the LGU and DENR PAMO to sustain enforcement activities of Tres Marias Bantay Dagat through access to ETDF funds; enforcement activities are done with 24/7 patrolling by four (4) Tres Marias Bantay Dagat members.
- B. Continued enforcement activities with 24/7 patrolling by active Tres Marias Bantay Dagat members. Assessment meetings were held during the year to continuously improve the enforcement system in Tres Marias. Other activities of the Tres Marias Bantay Dagat are as follows:
  - a. Assist in the conduct of coastal and marine patrol including surveillance and detention of illegal activities;
  - b. Participate in Crown of Thorns collection activities;
  - c. Assist in the Fish and Corals Monitoring
  - d. Assist in the apprehension of illegal fishing, mangrove and forest products gathered/ cut/ collected including equipment’s, machine and tools including conveyance used;
  - e. Assist and act as witness, if necessary, in apprehension, administrative hearing and filing administrative case/s in court, if evidence/s so warrants.
  - f. Submit spot, progress and periodic accomplishments report to the CENRO/PASu for consolidation;

C. ENF facilitated the weekly resupply to the Bantay Dagat.

III. Green Fins Initiative – is a United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) conservation initiative implemented in El Nido with ENF as the 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 11th year in El Nido, as of 2023, the following were implemented:

- D. Continued Green Fins (GF) awareness activities on responsible ecotourism in El Nido through conduct of Green Fins Training/ Orientation during Eco Tour Guiding Training activities. A total of forty-eight (48) new Tour Guides imparting values on their roles and responsibilities as partners / stakeholders/ ambassadors of marine environmental conservation and protection. The aim of the program is to effect behavioral change towards marine conservation and protection.

IV. Reproductive Health

- As of writing, there has no latest data on Contraceptive Prevalence Rate (CPR) from the Rural Health Unit- El Nido. ENF continues to promote RH methods.

V. Community-Based Malaria Control Project

- 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 two (2) reported cases in 2023.
- Continuous Information, Education and Communication Campaign on the use of mosquito nets. The annual celebration of 25<sup>th</sup> Pista ng Kulambo with a theme “Kalusugan ay Yayaman, Kaya’t Makiisa, Makilahok at Kapit Kamay nating sugpuin ang Malaria” was successfully done through a collaborative effort with the LGU through the Municipal Health Office.

Fund Raising Activities:

1. Draft proposals are being written on home gardening and fish aggregate device. Both are aimed at ensuring that there is food security among the villagers. These are targeted for implementation in non-tourism barangays of El Nido. These proposals are aimed to be finished by mid-February and submitted by March. ENF also has a generic mooring buoy project proposal for other donors. Various embassies and private entities are targeted as donors. Other proposals to be written:
  - Mangrove reforestation
  - Tuberculosis and Malaria prevention
  - Teenage pregnancy prevention

2. The ENF also will endeavor in income generating projects (i.e. poultry egg laying, organic piggery, etc.) using family or clan approach for better accountability.


### Institutional Highlights

- Participated in the Municipal Quasi-judicial Body hearing wherein ENF is involved in coming up with consensual decisions in relation to violations.
- Participated in meetings of Eco-Tourism Development Fee (ETDF) Management Board such as presentation of 2024 budget, amendments of ETDF Ordinance and Resolution NO. 22-004, presentation and approval of the budget proposals from the savings of 2021- 2022 ETDF Work and Financial Plan and presentation and approval of the ETDF Barangay Budget Proposals for the Year 2024.
- Participated in Municipal Project Monitoring and Evaluation Committee Meetings.
- Participated during consultation and finalization of the GAD Code.
- Participated in the meetings of El Nido Rehabilitation Task Force.
- Participated in the meetings of judges for Tourism Excellence and Green Tourism Award.
- Participated in Municipal Zoning Board of Adjustment and Appeals (MZBAA) meetings.
- Participated in the El Nido Municipal Tourism Council Meetings (ENMTC)
- Participated in the Local Health Board Meetings.
- Participated in the ECAN Board meetings to discuss important issues and projects.
- Participated in the Municipal Risk Reduction Management Council (MDRRMC) Meetings.
- Participated in the meetings of Municipal Ecological Solid Waste Management Board (MESWMB)
- Participated in Municipal Peace and Order Council (MPOC) meeting.
- Participated in the meetings of Municipal Council for the Protection of Children (MCPC).
- Participated on the Local Council on Anti-Trafficking and Violence Against Women and their Children (LCAT-VAWC).
- Participated in El Nido Tourism Summit and one of the board of judges for Tourism Champion and excellence award.
- Participated in the Municipal Development Council (MDC) meeting.
- Participated in the Municipal Council for Culture and Arts (MCCA) meetings.
- Participated the meetings on the Updating of Carrying Capacity Studies of El Nido Managed Resource Protected Area (ENMRPA), El Nido.
- Participated in the meetings of the GAD Focal Point System (GFPS) Technical Working Group (TWG)
- ENF renewed its accreditation with the Local Government of El Nido in September, 2023, 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 and Fisheries Council (MAFC)

- Municipal Fisheries Aquatic Resource Management Council (MFARMC)
- Eco-tourism Development Fee Management Board (ETDF-MB)
- El Nido Municipal Tourism Council (ENMTC)
- Municipal Quasi-Judicial Body
- Municipal Ecological Solid Waste Management Board (MESWMB)
- Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council (MDRRMC)
- Bids and Awards Committee
- Municipal Council for the Protection of Children (MCPC)
- Municipal Local Health Board (MLHB)
- Municipal Peace and Order Council (MPOC)
- Municipal ECAN Board
- Municipal Sewerage Treatment Technical Working Group
- Municipal Nutrition Council (MNC)
- Municipal Anti-Drug Abuse Council (MADAC)
- Technical Working Group of the Comprehensive Land and Water Use Plan
- Municipal Development Council (MDC)
- Technical Working Group of the PAMB Manual of Operation
- Municipal Law Enforcement Committee
- PAMB Project Development Committee
- PAMB Conflict Resolutions Committee
- Municipal Council for Culture and Arts (MCCA)
- Municipal Zoning Board of Adjustment and Appeals (MZBAA)
- Municipal Project Monitoring Committee (MPMC)
- Municipal Housing Board (MHB)
- Municipal Special Drug Education Center Team (MSDECT)
- Local Council on Anti-Trafficking and Violence Against Women and their Children (LCAT-VAWC).
- Member of the Technical Working Group (TWG) of Gad Focal Point System (GFPS)

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 in the Municipality of El Nido, Palawan this APR 23 2024

  
EDNA GACOT-LIM  
Municipal Mayor