

# Chinese poachers pay Php 9M compromise fine

TUGUEGARAO CITY, CAGAYAN – Ten Chinese fishermen who were apprehended for poaching in May this year, have paid a compromise fine amounting to 9.093 million pesos, thereby settling their administrative cases filed before the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources.

The amount paid is unprecedented in the history of poaching in Region 02 and marks the first time that provisions of the recently enacted RA 10654, which amended RA 8550 or the Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998, has been put to use.

The Chinese were aboard their fishing vessel M/V Lady Luck 020, when they were apprehended by elements of the BFAR and Philippine Coast Guard manning the BFAR patrol vessels MCS 3010 and MCS 3007. The Chinese were apprehended last May 25 within the vicinity of Babuyan Claro in the Calayan Group of Islands, this province.

The Chinese were identified as Liang A. Gui, Su Jia Ying, Zhang Ceng Fu, Wang Sheng Li, Shun Ji Ting, Zhuo Dao Jie, Wang Jia Yuan, Zhao Lian Zhau, Ye Xiao Jian, & Xie Yong Feng.

BFAR RO2 Regional Director Dr. Milagros Morales, expressed her appreciation on this development and said that the hefty fine shall serve as deterrent to other poachers.

BFAR Director Atty. Asis G. Perez, in his Order dated June 20, 2016, based his decision to accept the respondents' offer for compromise on DA Administrative Order 10 Rule 131.2 allowing administrative settlement on violations of the fisheries code, & on EO 292 (Administrative Code of the Philippines) particularly on the provision which directs government agencies to employ, if possible, amicable settlement in order to expedite administrative proceedings and avoid expensive litigation.

The amount collected was remitted



**Out of luck.** The Chinese fishing vessel M/V Lady Luck 020 (foreground) flanked by BFAR & PCG-manned patrol vessels MCS 3010 & MCS 3007 upon its apprehension off Babuyan Claro in the Calayan Group of Islands, north of Cagayan province. Photo taken May 25, 2016.

to the National Treasury. The amount paid includes the penalties imposed for violation of other provisions of the fisheries code, specifically Sec. 96 (Ban on Coral Exploitation) and Sec. 97 (Ban on Muro-ami, Other Methods and Gear Destructive to Coral Reefs and other Marine Habitat).

In their apprehension report, Rommel Diciano, Fishery Law Enforcer of BFAR RO2, stated that the Chinese vessel tried to mislead authorities by flying a Philippine flag, and with "Subic" painted on its astern side. The crew failed to provide any document that would justify their presence in Philippine waters, Diciano said.

BFAR RO2 FMRED Chief Atty. Samuel Agaloos said that with the dismissal of the administrative case, the Chinese vessel will be released,

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Retiradong pinuno ng Coast Guard, itinalagang bagong

**Direktor ng BFAR** 



Itinalaga si Retired Philippine Coast Guard Commodore Eduardo B. Gongona bilang bagong National Director ng Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources o BFAR.

Pormal na inilipat ni dating BFAR Director at DA Undersecretary for Fisheries Atty. Asis G. Perez ang kapangyarihan kay National Director Gongona sa isang seremonya na ginanap sa pambasang tanggapan ng ahensya sa Quezon City noong ikaisa ng Hulyo ngayong taon.

Sa kanyang talumpati, nagpasalamat si Atty. Perez sa halos anim na taong paninilbihan sa ahensya at sa suporta ng buong kawanihan at sektor ng pangisdaan.

Binati rin ni Atty. Perez si Director Gongona at hinimok ang lahat ng manggagawa sa BFAR na suportahan ang bagong administrasyon kagaya ng natanggap niyang suporta mula sa kanila.

Pinasalamatan naman ni Director Gongona si Perez dahil sa pagsusulong nito ng magagandang proyekto at programa.

Nangako ang bagong Director na itutuloy ang pagpapatupad ng mga programa para mas matulungan pa ang higit 1.7 milyon na mangingisda sa bansa.

Sinabi ni Director Gongona na pagtutuunan niya ng pansin ang pangangalaga ng mga yamangdagat sa pamamagitan ng mas pinaigting na pagpapatupad ng mga batas pangisdaan.

Aniya sa ganitong paraan mapoproteksyunan ang dagat na siyang pinagkukunan ng ikabubuhay ng milyun-milyong Pilipino at masisiguro na tuluy-tuloy ang produksyon ng isda.

Sa ganitong paraan aniya makakamit ang seguridad o kasapatan sa pagkain na prayoridad ngayon ng administrasyong Duterte.

Donald Aguinaldo with reports from BFAR IPRG.

## BFAR, PCG apprehends alleged Vietnamese poachers

TUGUEGARAO CITY, CAGAYAN – Joint elements of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources and the Philippine Coast Guard have apprehended last May 12, eighteen suspected Vietnamese poachers northwest of Calayan in the Calayan Group of Islands, this province.

The law enforcers were conducting seaborne patrol aboard the BFAR patrol vessels MCS 3010 and MCS 3007 when they chanced upon the foreigners, who were onboard three fishing boats.

According to Rommel Diciano, fishery law enforcer of BFAR RO2, the presence of the foreign boats were revealed by the bright lights used by the foreigners in fishing. Diciano said that the foreign fishing boats tried to evade but were outmaneuvered by the government patrol vessels.

Diciano said that upon confirming their nationality, the foreigners were brought to Port Irene in Sta. Ana, Cagayan, for processing.

As of this time, the BFAR RO2 is

conducting further inspection and preparing complaint against the fishers for violation of Sec. 91 (Poaching in Philippine Waters) of RA 10654. Diciano said that the agency will file the complaint at the Provincial Prosecutors Office in Aparri, later this day.

Violation of said provision carries a penalty of up to 1.2 million pesos and

imprisonment from 6 months to 3 years.

BFAR RO2 Regional Director Milagros Morales revealed that the operation is a product of intelligence. "This has been the subject of complaint from local fishers. We do hope that the apprehension can serve as deterrence to other foreign fishers," RD Morales, said. (released May 16) Maximino Prudencio.



#### Fisheries Technology Caravan, bumisita sa mga isla ng Calayan

Matagumpay na naisagawa ng BFAR R02 ang Fisheries Technology Caravan sa mga isla ng Calayan kung saan isinagawa ang iba't-ibang pagsasanay at mga pagpupulong na magpapalakas pa lalo sa sektor ng mga mangingisda sa lugar.

Isinagawa ang naturang gawain mula April 16-19, 2016.

Dumalo sa Caravan si Mr. Leopoldo B. Navarro, ang bagong talagang Fisherfolk Regional Director (Mangingisdang Direktor), bilang bahagi ng kanyang mga gawain sa selebrasyon ng Farmers and Fisherfolk Month ngayong taon.

Naimbitahan din si Mr. Arsenio Dela Pena, isang Fisherfolk Leader mula sa bayan ng Claveria, Cagayan at isang National Gawad Saka Awardee bilang Outstanding Fisherfolk, upang magsanay ng mga mangingisda.

Ang Fisheries Technology Caravan ay isang taunang gawain ng BFAR R02 kung saan bumibisita ito sa mga lugar na mahirap marating at inilalapit ang mga serbisyo, programa at proyekto ng kawanihan.

Matatagpuan ang mga isla ng Calayan sa Luzon Strait hilaga ng Luzon Island. Ang bayan ng Calayan ang natatanging island-municipality sa lalawigan ng Cagayan.

llan sa mga pagsasanay na isinagawa ay ang paggawa at paggamit ng lambat, at pagdadagdag-halaga o value-



Pinangunahan ni Provincial Fisheries Action Officer Ginoong Venchitio Villarao (ikalawa mula kaliwa), kasama sina 2016 Fisherfolk Regional Director G. Leopoldo Navarro, NAPC Representative Gng. Merceditas Suetos at Municipal Agriculturist Llopis ang pamimigay ng mga kagamitang pangisda tulad ng gillnet, lifevest, atbp sa naganap na Fisheries Technology Caravan sa Calayan noong Abril 2016.

adding ng mga isda.

Tinalakay din ang Republic Act No. 10654, ang batas na nag-amyenda sa Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998 at iba pang batas sa pangisdaan.

Inispeksyon din ang mga lugar na planong tayuan ng mga proyekto sa aquaculture. Kaagapay ng BFAR R02 ang Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) sa gawain na ito.

Kasamang nagpatrulya ng BFAR R02 law enforcement team ang mga tauhan ng PCG sa mga katubigan sa palibot ng Calayan laban sa illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing (IUUF). \$\overline{\Omega}\$ Donald Aguinaldo.

# BFAR National Director Perez, muling binisita ang mga mangingisda sa Rehiyon Dos

Muling binisita ni Department of Agriculture Undersecretary for Fisheries at BFAR National Director Atty. Asis G. Perez ang mga mangingisda sa mga malalayong isla ng Calayan at Babuyan Claro sa Cagayan at probinsiya ng Batanes.

Sa kanyang pagdalaw, nagpamahagi ang BFAR ng fishing gears, marine boat engines, at postharvest equipment katulad ng freezer at fish stalls kung saan daan-daang mangingisda ang natulungan.

Pinasinayaan din ang itatayong Community Fish Landing Center Project sa bayan ng Calayan, Cagayan. Sinabi ni Director Perez na ang proyekto ay kumpleto sa mga kagamitan at pasilidad na magiging malaking tulong sa mga mangingisda para mapanatili ang magandang kalidad ng kanilang mga huling isda.

Bukod dito, iniabot ni Director Perez and tsekeng nagkakahalaga ng labinlimang milyong piso sa lokal na pamahalaan ng Mahatao para sa konstruksyon ng seawall sa nasabing bayan.

Nakipagdayalogo rin si Director Perez sa mga mangingisda kaugnay sa mga mahahalagang usapin sa sektor ng pangisdaan sa kanilang lugar.

llan sa mga napagusapan ay ang mga isyu katulad ng poaching o ang pangingisda ng mga dayuhan sa katubigan ng Pilipinas, paggamit ng mga ipinagbabawal na paraan sa pangingisda, pagbagsak ng bilang ng mga huling isda, pangangalaga sa karagatan at pamamahagi ng mga dagdag na proyektong pangkabuhayan.

Sinanay din ng BFAR ang ilang mangingisda sa bayan ng Uyugan at Basco sa paggawa ng mga lambat at asin. 🛭 Donald Aguinaldo.



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## **Lessons from** Vietnamese Poachers

from BFAR RO2 and the Philippine Coast Guard, apprehended 18 Vietnamese fishers onboard 3 wooden fishing vessels northwest of Calayan Island.

Based on information gathered from the field, the Vietnamese vessels were apparently in the area for quite some time. The Vietnamese fishers employed nothing but a series of hook and lines and bright lights that serve as fish attractant. Found on the apprehended vessels were tuna with each piece weighing an about 40 kilograms.

Such a nice catch. Which leads us to think, why can't our local commercial fishing vessels (CFVs) do the same? If the Vietnamese vessels can travel some 745 NM from their territory, why can't our local CFVs move just a few kilometers from their preferred fishing areas for that bigger catch? CFVs are fishing vessels 3.1 gross tons and above and are designated to operate beyond municipal waters

Alongside the presence of foreign fishing vessels and blast fishing, one top concern of the fishery law enforcers is the intrusion of CFVs in municipal waters. The local CFVs use active gears and are often found encroaching into municipal waters. Active gears are characterized by gear movement and the pursuit of target species like ringnet (sirut), round haul seine (sapiao), trawl (galadgad) and drift filter net (banuar). Until this time also, the CFVs known as buli-buli (modified Danish seine) still operate despite the ban on said fishing gear as provided for under FAO 246.

The intrusion of CFVs and their use

Last May 12, fishery law enforcers of active gear in municipal waters result to the destruction of the marine habitat and considerably impacts on the catch of small municipal fishers. The small fishers often complain of very low catch, which they attribute to the intrusion of the bigger commercial boats in municipal waters.

> BFAR RO2 has apprehended more than a handful of these local violators since January this year. But, cannot do the job alone. We need the assistance and cooperation of local residents & other law enforcement agencies, particularly in areas where these violators operate. Much more important, the Local Government Units must exhibit political will in halting these violators in as much as said violators are their constituents, and the violations occur in municipal waters. The LGUs have primary jurisdiction over municipal waters.

The current project on establishment of Community Landing Centers shall address issues on marketing, post-harvest handling and processing and also fisherfolk organizational development. Experts also on hand to render technical assistance with regards to offshore fishing.

In this light, we strongly urge our local CFV operators to explore the possibility of venturing farther from their frequent fishing areas, just like the Vietnamese. This is to enable them to catch the bigger fishes and at the same time, allow the smaller municipal fishers to have their share. In so doing, we can increase the regional fisheries production and consequently, the income of everyone.



## BFAR launches project to revive inland waters



QSU President Dr. Samuel Benigno, BFAR Dir. Atty. Asis G. Perez, Quirino Gov. Hon. Junie Cua, BFAR RO2 RD Dr. Milagros C. Morales and Dr. Adelaida Palma during the NIFEP launching program held in QSU Diffun grounds last Feb. 7, 2016.

What used to be a stagnant and polluted body of water is sparkling once again and can now be used for fish production. Impossible?

Thanks to the rehabilitation effort led by the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, the reservoir located within the Quirino State University compound in Diffun, Quirino has been revived and now offers new possibilities for the school administration.

There was a time when even the meager fish found in the reservoir have been rejected due to fears of pollution, so says QSU President Dr. Samuel Benigno. "The canal that feeds the reservoir passes thru the populated areas," Pres. Benigno explains.

When the BFAR offered to rehabilitated the water body under its National Inland Fisheries Enhancement Program (NIFEP), the school did not hesitate and gave its approval and financial counterpart right away.

First on the agenda, according to Jennifer Tattao, BFAR RO2 Aquaculturist II and NIFEP Asst. Focal Person in Region 2, was site evaluation and water analysis led by NIFEP national head Dr. Adelaida Palma. Capacity-building for the recipients followed. Clearing and civil works to include rip-rap and construction of culvert connecting the canal to the reservoir followed.

After which, a triple filtration system was installed. The filtration system consists of two mechanical filters and an Aquatic Macrophyte Biofiltration System (AMBS). First line of filter is made of gravel screen followed by the

AMBS. The latter is simply a thick growth of water lily, which has been found by research to be effective in absorbing toxic substance. The last line, located within the culvert mouth, consists of pebbles and charcoal.

The project also entailed the planting of fresh water mangroves locally known as 'putat' (Barringtonia asiatica) within the banks of the canal. The 1-ha reservoir was seeded with 5,000 pieces fingerlings, composed of different carp species and tilapia, during the project launch last Feb. 7.

Aside from fish production, the reservoir is also used to irrigate rice fields nearby. Pres. Benigno added that the school constructed cottages at the banks of the reservoir for recreation purposes.

#### Source of protein

The NIFEP, according to BFAR Dir. Atty. Asis G. Perez, aims to revive inland bodies of water such as lakes and small farm reservoirs, as these resources "offer potential for fish production and socio- economic advancement". Currently, these bodies of water have a very minimal average production of 50 kilograms fish per hectare per year. "If revived and stocked properly, we can increase this to 200 kilograms per year, which can augment the protein requirements specially in landlocked and upland areas," Dir. Perez, said.

Stocking entails proper matching of the natural food present in the water body to the type of fingerlings to be dispersed. "In such a way, we can maximize the utilization of natural food present in the different water columns," Dr. Palma, explained.

The NIFEP aims to revive 36 lakes and 320 reservoirs in the entire country, including Bangalao Lake in Sta. Teresita, Cagayan. Also included under the program is the establishment of gene bank and breeding of commercially important indigenous fish species.

Gov. Junie Cua said that the project can be an answer to El Niño as well as address other concerns of the provincial government such as livelihood generation, food production and environmental protection and conservation.

BFAR RO2 Regional Director Dr. Milagros Morales expressed appreciation for the support and assistance from QSU administration as well as the provincial government, and said that the agency will continue to collaborate with the local authorities in the implementation of fishery projects.

The project launching, the very first in the entire country, was held within the QSU compound in Diffun and was attended by LGU, BFAR and QSU officials, fisherfolk and students. Maximino Prudencio.



# Seaweeds Warehouse inaugurated, year-round supply of seaweeds assured

Supply of seaweeds (Gracilaria spp.) in Cagayan will be made available all year-round now through the Seaweeds Warehouse that was recently established in Gonzaga, Cagayan.

Unlike in the past, seaweeds farmers and gatherers won't have to worry anymore at losing their produce since they can use the new facility now to store seaweeds.

The 66-square meter warehouse located within the compound of the LGU can store up to 75, 000 kilograms (75 metric tons) of seaweeds at one time.

The facility is going to benefit seaweeds farmers, gatherers and processors in storing and consolidating dried seaweeds before these are transported and processed.

At present, there are nine associations and pond owners who are directly involved in seaweeds farming in Cagayan.

According to data, production of seaweeds in Cagayan in the last 10 years (2005-2014) has averaged to 1,574.135 metric tons.

"Gonzaga has become a major producer of seaweeds in Cagayan. In fact, it has edged its way up to become the lead seaweeds producing town in the province," BFAR R02 Regional Director Dr. Milagros C. Morales said, noting the reason behind putting up the facility in said town.

According to Usec. for Fisheries and BFAR National Director Atty. Asis G. Perez, who graced the inauguration

scientific analysis.



of the facility on February 06, 2016, the seaweeds warehouse will be the trading center for seaweeds in Cagayan particularly in Gonzaga and its nearby municipalities of Buguey and Sta. Teresita.

Found adjacent to the seaweeds warehouse is the seaweeds processing laboratory utilized in the production of seaweeds-fortified products such as noodles and chips.

The products are developed by fisherfolk and women associations in Gonzaga like the Women in Fisheries Enterprise and the Baua Fisherfolk Association.

Regional Director Morales said that the seaweeds processing laboratory has helped fisherfolk to generate livelihood and added income.

"The two facilities will become the

focal center on the conduct of seaweed processing and development of post-harvest technology for dissemination to clienteles," Usec. Perez said.

"It is hoped that through the facilities the promotion of seaweeds farming and processing in Cagayan will be encouraged," he continued.

The lady director of BFAR R02 said that seaweeds farmers and gatherers can hope that demands for their produce will continue to improve because of the intensified promotion of seaweeds and its value-added products through the continuous conduct of trainings on value-adding of seaweeds by BFAR.

BFAR leads the promotion of seaweeds in Region 02 also because of the health benefits that can be derived from it especially the high protein and mineral content that it holds. © Donald Aguinaldo.



in collecting and reporting reliable and precise data to ensure that proper and consistent data will be gathered and submitted for

## Women group benefits from BuB

TUGUEGARAO CITY, Cagayan – The rural improvement club (RIC) of Brgy. Smart in Gonzaga, Cagayan – well-known for their seaweed fortified food products, now have additional reasons to smile.

The RIC has more than doubled their output, thanks to the Bottom-up Budgeting (BuB) program.

A recipient of Seaweed Processing Livelihood Project of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources back in 2013, the RIC makes seaweed chips as their flagship product.

The group's leader, Sanny Cortez, woe the days when they get so tired processing their products, only to have very little output. "Before we can only make two to four kilos finished product per setting due to inadequate equipment," Cortez laments.

Now, the group can make on

average six to eight kilos. This can even go up to 16 kilos, if all members work full-time, Cortez relates.

The group was able to expand their processing area and avail of addition equipment such as pasta maker, mixer, bond sealer, oven, deep fryer, freezer and a multi-commodity solar tunnel dryer, thru the BuB. The group's expansion, all worth 1.5 million pesos, was recommended by the town's Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Management Council and the Local Poverty Reduction Action Team.

With the increased output, Cortez claims that each member of their group can now take home about two thousand pesos per month, as remuneration. "This is great since we were able to have additional income," Cortez, said.

The group's seaweed chips are similar to more popular products,

taste enhancer MSG. The use of seaweed puree as part of the raw material, also makes the product healthier, says BFAR RO2 Fish Processing Chief, Dr. Angel Encarnacion.

except these are made without the

Apart from seaweed chips, the group makes a multitude of other processed fishery products such as seaweed canton, seaweed pilipit, peanut brittle with seaweed, dried seaweed, sweetened shrimp, sweetened shrimp paste, spicy dilis, dried fish and fermented fish.

Their products are sold to school canteens, local and provincial outlets. Occasionally, the group caters to orders for abroad.

"We expressed our gratitude to the DILG for their BuB program, as it is a big boost in meeting the needs of our fisherfolk constituents," BFAR RO2 Regional Director Milagros Morales, said. Maximino Prudencio.

the Attarata na Gaddang Association, is set for their second cycle harvest on their 5-unit tilapia fish cage project, also from the BuB. Mateo Perez, vice-president of the association, hopes that proceeds can shore up the association's finances. The Attarata is engaged in lending, as its main line of business

Under the BuB, the local or grassroots level is given the chance to propose projects. If approved, budget for said project will then be coursed thru concerned agencies.

BFAR RO2 Regional Director Milagros Morales, said that the BuB program is a big boost in meeting the needs of BFAR's fisherfolk constituents.

#### Small fishers benefit from BuB

Orlando Mamaclay, 58, from Brgy. Minanga in Angadanan, Isabela has found a new and fruitful occupation to fill his days.

The former bodegero (warehouse worker) is now a full-time fisher. Mamaclay received a fishing boat from the Bottom-up Budgeting (BuB) program earlier this year.

Like most folks in his village, Mamaclay fish within the Cagayan and Ganano rivers that run thru their municipality. On the average, he can catch four kilos of mixed species mostly eel, rice eel, tilapia, carp and freshwater shrimps.

"My daily catch is enough for my neighbors composed of four households," Mamaclay says. Proceeds, he adds, are used for household and other expenses.

Mamaclay, is echoed by Imelda Aliangan, whose husband Antonio, is also a recipient of the BuB. "Before my husband still need to borrow a boat before he can fish. With the boat from the BuB, he can now fish anytime he wants," Aliangan, relates.

Aliangan says that income from fishing greatly adds to his husband's wage who is also a bodegero, more so during the lean season.

Overall, a total of 35 units fiberglass boats and 200 fishing gears were

distributed to different barangays in the municipality in February this year.

Angadanan Municipal Agriculturist Yolanda Alog expressed her approval to the BuB. "Our office is generally limited to technology transfer. The BuB provides us with the opportunity to help and target the most in need among our constituents," Alog said.

Apart from the BuB, the MA also expressed her appreciation to the eel dispersal project of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources – Region 02. "Before, we can hardly have any eel, now fishers come to us to sell their catch," Alog said.

In Cauayan City, also in Isabela,



BFAR RO2 Regional Director Dr. Milagros C. Morales (middle) received the Plaque of Appreciation from the Department of Social Welfare and Development Region 02 that recognizes the Bureau's continuous provision of technical and vocational trainings and assistance to Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program beneficiaries of the DSWD. Also in photo are DSWD Regional Director Ponciana P. Condoy (right) and Ma. Angela S. Gopalan, Director IV of the Capability Building Division DSWD Central Office.

## BFAR boat-making tech saves on wood



Sturdy, cost-effective, safe and long-lasting, are just some of the words that best describe the new fishing boats being introduced by the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources.

Best of all, the boats do not entail the use of precious timber.

Dubbed as the "Bangkang Pinoy", the boats are fabricated using Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic technology. The Bangkang Pinoy was originally meant as rehabilitation assistance in the aftermath of Typhoon Yolanda. Seeing its applicability specially for municipal fishers, the agency has decided to disseminate the technology in all regions. Dissemination

was made through the Trainers Training on Fiberglass Boat Design and Construction being held by the BFAR – National Marine Fisheries Development Center in Sangley Pt., Cavite.

Unlike traditional wooden boats, the Bangkang Pinoy does not capsize even if overturned, due to built-in safety features. "The boats have hollow portions distributed within its hull, to aid in buoyancy and to keep it afloat, even if overturned," says Rodel Pasaraba. The designers kept in mind the safety of the fishers, the BFAR RO2 technical staff, added.

While cost of fabrication materials mainly resin, hardener, and matting

can be higher compared to wood, Bangkang Pinoy is more cost-effective as it lasts longer, not susceptible to rotting & abrasion, and have lower maintenance cost. Fabrication is also much faster, as the materials can be easily procured, unlike wood which is banned nowadays.

So far, the BFAR in Region 02, has fabricated and distributed one hundred ten units of the boats, since the start of the year. These were distributed in provinces of Quirino (40 units), Isabela (40 units) and Cagayan (30 units). The bureau also assisted in the fabrication of 35 units for Angadanan, Isabela and has scheduled a training on fiberglass boat construction for San Mariano, same province, under their Bottom-up Budgeting programs.

Meanwhile, the BFAR RO2 has also started the distribution of fish stalls made of stainless steel. Compared to the usual fish stalls, the new stalls are more hygienic, long-lasting and enable the vendor to exercise proper fish handling. This can translate to a better price and faster marketing of the product.

According to BFAR RO2 Regional Director Milagros Morales, both projects are components of the agency's pro-poor program dubbed as TARGET (Targeted Actions to Reduce Poverty and Generate Economic Transformation). 

Maximino Prudencio.

## BFAR 2 undertakes massive establishment of oyster projects

Elorde Alariao, a full-time fisher from Brgy. Minanga in Buguey, Cagayan, woe the days when there is little or no catch at all. "There is simply too many of us now, who fish in the Buguey Iagoon," Alariao, also president of the Gunglu ti Mangngalap association, said in the dialect.

It is a good thing, Alariao said, that they have oysters, both from the wild and from the oyster raft awarded by the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources in Region 02, which they can turn to during lean times.

Neighbor Minda Soliven echoed Alariao's observations. "Oyster is easy to sell and require no feeds at all," Soliven said, in reference to the fish cage projects that have proliferated in their area.

In nearby Sta. Teresita town, the local government unit and oyster project recipients, in collaboration with the BFAR RO2, recently held a cook fest to further promote oyster consumption and utilization.

On the other hand, 4P groups in Namuac and Pata area, in the boundary of Sanchez Mira and Claveria, have been benefitting from oyster projects in recent years.

Successes such as these, has prompted the BFAR RO2 to undertake massive establishment of oyster projects regionwide with the aim to increase fishery production and provide alternative sources of livelihood to coastal dwellers.

The agency seeks to establish 550 units of oyster raft projects this year.

These are broken down as 50 units for Sta. Ana, 35 units to Gonzaga, Sta. Teresita – 85 units, Buguey – 200 units, Pamplona – 70 units, Sanchez Mira – 60 units, Claveria – 30 units, Maconacon – 5 units and Divilacan – 15 units.

According to BFAR RO2 Regional Director Milagros Morales, bulk of the demos come from the National Shellfish Development Program, while the rest were funded under the regular budget of the agency.

Oyster culture is low cost, low maintenance and highly marketable seafood that can provide alternative source of income to our fisherfolk, RD Morales said. The oyster demos, RD Morales said, is also one way to lessen fishing pressure. Maximino Prudencio.

## Mangrove planting brings seeds of hope for small fisherfolk

Fifty-six years old Jaime Yosores, a fisherman from Brgy. Pasiguit in Sta. Ana, Cagayan, can still recall his and his fellow fisherfolks' grim situation a little more than four years ago.

"Pagdating ng amihan, walangwala kami. Lahat tambay, tag-gutom talaga," Yosores says.

Driven by the burning desire to improve their lot, Yosores sought the help of local authorities in the formation of a fisherfolk organization in their area. Yosores is aware of the advantages that a group or organization can offer, being a member of one in his former residences in Gen. Santos City and Palawan.

His initial move, however, was rebuffed due to lack of funds. Yosores says that his idea was even met with skepticism in his own village, given that he is not originally from that place.

His big break came when a community organizer from the now-defunct Integrated Coastal Resource Management Project, a foreign-assisted project co-managed by the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, visited their area.

It was in Dec. 11, 2011, when the group Pasiguit Fisherfolk Association (PFA), was formalized and registered with the Department of Labor and Employment.

Trainings on Organizational Management, Entrepreneurship, and Financial Management, all sponsored by the ICRMP, followed.



Although their initial project comprising seven marine cages had sub-par performance due to bad weather, the group managed to shore-up their finances thru the mangrove rehabilitation project under Philippine National Aquasilvii Program. The PNAP is a special project implemented by the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources which aims to restore mangrove areas and generate livelihood opportunities for coastal

Unlike most group, where they divide among themselves all the proceeds from planting and maintaining mangrove, the PFA allocates a certain percentage for the group's coffers. They use this to fund the group's projects.

The PFA has planted more than a million propagules since 2012, as per contract with the BFAR RO2.

To date, the group is engaged in fish trading, lending and also operates a baklad or fish corral. The group also owns 2 big bancas and is on the process of constructing their very own office building.

On fish trading, the group buys their own members' catch on-site using their two big bancas. In this way, the members can have comparable prices for their catch and can cut on logistics and save on transport costs.

The baklad project on one hand, had a harvest of more than 800 kilos for a revenue of P66,500.00 just for the last week of November. Sharing system is employed in dividing proceeds from this project. The project is so successful, Yosores says, that other groups now want to have their own baklads.

Yosores says that thanks to the PNAP and ICRMP, he and the members of their group, were able to purchase necessities and simple luxuries such as appliances, videoke, home renovations and send their kids to school.

On the other hand, noticeable improvement on the species thriving within mangrove areas had been observed.

Equally important, Yosores and his group now have a buffer to shield them from the onset of amihan by way of the alternative livelihood managed by their association.

"Our agency will continue to assist fisherfolk groups like the PFA, knowing fully well that small or marginalized fisherfolk comprise the membership of these groups. We have a menu of interventions tailored for the needs of fisherfolk organizations," BFAR Region 02 Regional Director Milagros Morales, said. Maximino Prudencio.



**Pool of Experts.** Subject matter experts on various fishery and fishery-related topics who shall compose the Training Implementation Team of BFAR R02 were identified during a Training-Workshop held on May 3, 2016 at the BFAR R02 MIS Hall. Said pool of experts were assigned to act as trainers on various trainings being held by the agency. Photo shows BFAR R02 Training Division head Dr. Evelyn C. Ame giving her inputs during the Training-Workshop.

### Sta. Praxedes first to break ground on CFLC in Region 02

The LGU Sta. Praxedes in Cagayan was first to break ground on the Community Fish Landing Centers (CFLCs) that will be put up in 17 sites in Region 02.

In the Groundbreaking Ceremony held on February 18, 2016 in Brgy. San Juan, Sta. Praxedes, where the site is located, a case containing the floor plan of the building was lowered and buried underground to mark the beginning of construction of the CFLC.

The CFLC costs 2.85 million pesos and will house post-harvest equipment and tools that will enable fisherfolk to preserve the good quality of their fish and fishery products. This is to address issues on post-harvest losses in fisheries.

Local consumers will also benefit from the fish landing centers as they will have better access to safe and quality fish and fishery products. The CFLC will also be opened as venues for skills trainings.

The local chief executive of LGU Sta. Praxedes, Mayor Esterlina A. Aguinaldo and BFAR RO2 Regional Director Dr. Milagros C. Morales were present during the ceremony.



"The establishment of CFLC is only one of the strategies under the TARGET or Targeted Action to Reduce Poverty and Generate Economic Transformation project of BFAR, which is seen to spur inclusive growth among small fisherfolk in the country," Regional Director Morales said.

Ms. Diana Rivera of the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC), the implementing agency being in charge of the Social Preparation component of the CFLC project, and Dr. Ronaldo R. Libunao, the Focal Person in the implementation of the project in Region 02, also attended the activity.

Donald Aguinaldo.

### BFAR R02, LGU Sta. Praxedes stage 8th Gamet Festival



The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources in Region 02 and the local government unit of Sta. Praxedes staged the celebration of the 8th Gamet Festival that featured what is dubbed as the "black gold of the sea" – gamet- which is a billion dollar industry worldwide.

Gamet is a red, papery seaweeds that thrives on rocky shores mainly in the town of Sta. Praxedes in Cagayan and in Claveria, Sta. Ana, and Calayan in Cagayan and Burgos in Ilocos Norte.

It is known as laver in the West, zicai among the Chinese, kim by the Koreans and nori by the Japanese.

During the festivity, BFAR R02 Regional Director Dr. Milagros C. Morales revealed that a group of researchers from the government and academe have successfully isolated spores of the seaweed gamet (under laboratory condition) in what is seen as the very first step towards development of culture techniques for this very promising marine plant.

On the other hand, Mr. Antonio Yuri Y. Yap, Executive Director of the Seaweeds Industry Association of the Philippines in Cebu City shared the good news that gamet is among the priority commodity under the Philippine Rural Development Project (PRDP).

The PRDP is a six-year (6) project designed to establish the government platform for a modern, climate-smart and market-oriented agri-fishery sector. PRDP will partner with the LGUs and the private sector in providing key infrastructure, facilities, technology, and information that will raise incomes, productivity, and competitiveness in the countryside (daprdp.net).

Today, we may start calling gamet as Pyropia instead of Porphyra. Researchers from the Far Eastern University in Manila in the person of Mr. Richard V. Dumilag and Ms. Cynthia Mintu were able to name two species of this marine plant in mainland Northern Luzon and Palaui Island - Pyropia acanthophora and Pyropia taneshiganensis, accordingly. Bad Donald Aguinaldo.

## A budding women group from Pingkian



**Yummy tinapa.** Members of the Pingkian Women's Association pose before their newly smoked round scad aka galunggong. The group started with a modest 20 kilos fish and smokehouse from BFAR RO2 back in 2013, and now processes two banyeras per week.

Pingkian – a picturesque barangay in Kayapa, in the landlocked province of Nueva Vizcaya.

One can notice the abundant fruits and small rice farms along the roadside when traversing the highway connecting the town to other upland areas and ultimately to Baguio City.

Who could have thought that despite its minimal fishery production, there exist a budding group whose main line of business is fish processing?

Enter the Pingkian Women's Association, a 15-member group founded by a retired teacher in 2013. Members are mostly wage earners engaged in farm labor.

The need for alternative livelihood as well as access to wholesome fishery product prompted the members to form an association, says PWA President Conception Balasya.

The group's livelihood started with a modest 20 kilos fish as raw material and a smokehouse awarded by the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources – Region 02, back in 2013. The initial capital was awarded after the group completed a Fish Processing Training held by BFAR RO2 and sponsored by the Local Government Unit.

To date, the group's production capacity has grown to 1 tub (banyera) raw material at twice weekly processing session. Raw materials are mainly roundscad (galunggong) and small tuna. From their initial smoke house, the group was also able to purchase two additional units out of their profit.

Although, the group's product sells a little higher compared to other smoked fish, Balasya says that marketing is not a problem, as buyers appreciate the quality of the group's product. The group sells their product within the barangay, but the President says that there are also orders for pampasalubong.

The group's Vice-President Julie Bungubong appreciates the fact that each member can take home P 150 to P 200 remuneration and 2 packs of finished product each processing session. Cohesion among group

members, commitment from the leaders and proper and transparent record keeping, keeps the group rolling, according to the members themselves.

Recently, the group was awarded 1 unit freezer from the BFAR RO2 for their storage needs. A seaweed processing training is also set in the coming weeks, to complement the group's present venture.

"The PWA is an epitome of an association. We appreciate the fact that they put to good use the training and materials we provided to them," Quirino Pascua, Provincial Fisheries Action Officer for Nueva Vizcaya, said.

Recognizing the potential of the association, the LGU, according to Agricultural Technologist Elgine Iritan, has set aside funds for the construction of a processing building to be constructed near the barangay's planned Bagsakan Center. This will surely facilitate production and at the same time promote the group's product to potential buyers.

BFAR RO2 Regional Director Milagros Morales has earlier stated that the agency has programs and projects specially designed to empower women and women groups and enable them to contribute more economically.

Maximino Prudencio.



Ang Groundbreaking Ceremony para sa sa itatayong Satellite Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Building sa Amianan Island, ang pinakadulong isla ng Pilipinas sa Norte, ay pinangunahan ni BFAR Director at Undersecretary for Fisheries Atty. Asis G. Perez kasama ang Provincial Fisheries Officer ng Batanes na si Ginoong Ritchie A. Rivera at iba pang opisyales ng BFAR at lokal na pamahalaan ng Batanes. Magsisilbi ang opisina na ito ng BFAR bilang watch center upang mabantayan ang mga katubigan sa paligid nito mula sa mga dayuhang mangingisda at masiguro na walang nangyayaring ilegal na pangingisda sa lugar. Sa ganitong paraan aniya makakapagtatag ng presensya ang bansa sa nasabing isla na ilang kilometro na lamang ang layo mula sa bansang Taiwan.

## Fisherfolk leader from Vizcaya sits as Fisherfolk RD



Navarro assumed the role and position as BFAR Fisherfolk Regional Director effective May 2, 2016 and will act as such for the whole month of May.

The installation of a Fisherfolk Regional Director is mandated under Department of Agriculture Special Order No. 88. The move is intended to "further dramatize and popularize fisherfolk empowerment and participation as government partners and draw awareness on the vital role of farmers and fisherfolk as backbone in the government's poverty alleviation program."

Navarro steered his group, the Nueva Vizcaya Aquaculture Producers Association, Inc. composed mostly of backyard tilapia raisers, in availing of a livelihood grant from the provincial government of Nueva Vizcaya. The assistance enables the group to solve two of the most pressing issues affecting tilapia raisers, which are low buying price from traders and high cost of feeds.

To date, Navarro says that they buy directly their feed inputs from the manufacturing plant and also market their produce directly to the wholesale buyers and consumers. Navarro said that they have established a barangay fish outlet for this purpose.

In yesterday's installation ceremony, BFAR RO2 Regional Director Milagros Morales highlighted the vital role of fisherfolk in providing food for the nation and in nation-building, in general. The regional director also thanked the fisherfolk for their assistance in the protection and management of fisheries and aquatic resources.

Navarro's installation, RD Morales said, shall provide him with an inside look on how the Bureau operates particularly in the delivery of services to its clientele. During his one month stay, RD Morales said that Navarro shall serve as the representative of the fisherfolk in Region 02.

Alongside the installation of a Fisherfolk Regional Director, RD Morales said that the bureau will intensify promotional and advocacy activities thru participation in various festivals, conduct of trainings, launch various projects, and intensify fishery law enforcement, in line with the observance of Farmers and Fisherfolk month this May. Maximino Prudencio.

## 27th Farmers and Fisherfolk Month Celebration















a tribute to the heroism of the farmers and fisherfolk who tirelessly toil our lands and seas

Seaweeds processing livelihood projects, kumpleto nang naipamahagi sa Quirino at Nueva Vizcaya

Naipamahagi na ng BFAR Region 02 ang labinpitong seaweeds processing livelihood projects sa mga women's organization sa probinsya ng Quirino at Nueva Vizcaya.

Bahagi ito ng Seaweeds Processing Technology Demonstration and Livelihood Program ng ahensya na pinondohan sa halagang 3.18 million pesos.

Sa ilalim ng programa, layon ng ahensya na makapamigay ng 38 livelihood projects kung saan ang bawat isa ay nagkakahalaga ng 74 thousand pesos.

Una sa layunin ng proyekto ang makagawa ng mga pagkain na mayaman sa iodine at iron gamit ang halamang dagat o seaweeds.

Ito ay upang labanan ang micronutrient deficiency partikular ang kakulangan sa iodine ng katawan na nagdudulot ng anemia.

Sa katunayan, naging pamantayan ng BFAR sa pagpili ng mga benepisyaryo ang mga lugar sa rehiyon kung saan naitala ang pinakamatataas na insidente ng Iron-Deficiency Anemia.

Alinsunod dito, nagbahagi ang ahensya ng mga post-harvest equipment gaya ng electric pasta maker, dalawang electric impulse sealer, digital weighing scale, upright freezer, electric deep fryer stainless with metallic filtering cover, blower, at packaging materials kagaya ng polyethylene bags at bottles.

Nagbahagi rin ang BFAR ng sampungsakong Gracillaria o guraman sa bawat asosasyon na magagamit nila upang makapagsimula.

Bago ang pamamahagi ng mga kagamitan ay sumailalim ang mga benepisyaryo sa isang pagsasanay kaugnay sa seaweeds processing kung saan tinuruan ang mga kababaihan na gumawa ng mga produkto mula sa seaweeds katulad ng chips, canton, at pickles.

Ang Gracillaria at Pyropia (Porphyra) ang species ng seaweeds na karaniwang ginagamit upang iproseso.

Mayaman sa Gracillaria spp. ang bayan ng Buguey, Gonzaga, Sta. Teresita at Claveria sa Cagayan habang ang Pyropia spp. ay limitado lamang sa iilang lugar gaya ng Claveria, Sta. Praxedes, Sta. Ana at Calayan sa Cagayan.

Bukod sa layuning pangkalusugan, makakatulong din ang programa sa kabuhayan ng mga benepisyaryo dahil maaari na silang gumawa ng mga produkto na kanilang maibebenta.

Matutulungan din ng programa ang seaweeds farmers sa Cagayan dahil sa kanila magmumula ang suplay ng seaweeds na gagamitin sa paggawa ng mga produkto.

Nakapagpamahagi na rin ng seaweeds livelihood projects ang BFAR sa ilang benepisyaro sa Cagayan at magsisimula na rin ang pamamahagi sa Batanes at Isabela.

Ang programa ay pinapangunahan ni Ginoong Aeron D. Mayor at sa pakikipagtulungan sa Training Division ng ahensya, Provincial Fisheries Offices at mga lokal na pamahalaan. 🛭 Donald Aguinaldo.

## BFAR 2 scholars graduate with flying colors

TUGUEGARAO CITY, CAGAYAN – Five of the seven scholars of the fisheries bureau in Region 02 have finished their Bachelor of Science in Fisheries course at the Cagayan State University in Aparri with Latin Honors.

The graduates, namely Heidi Q. Corpuz, Evelyn S. Talla, Roxanne A. Cabebe, Maigan E. Maruquin & Jackielyn R. Carpio, were accorded with the rating equivalent to a Cum Laude. The other graduates – Jim Bryan T. Bugarin and Keveen B. Duya, also finished their course with above average ratings.

Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Region 02 Regional Director Milagros Morales was elated with this development and said that "bright students will translate to excellent employees, which will later redound to the benefit of the fisheries sector."

In addition to said graduates, the Bureau also maintains forty-six other scholars, taking up fisheries undergraduate course.

Annually, the Bureau offers scholarships for BS Fisheries under

two categories namely the Fisherfolk Children Educational Grant & Industry Leaders. The latter is open to kids whose parents are not fisherfolk but belong to the top ten of the graduating class.

Scholarship benefits include a monthly stipend of P 4,000; free tuition and other school fees; book allowance; OJT, thesis and graduation support. Scholars likewise, are constantly monitored and guided by the school as well as BFAR RO2 administration.

RD Morales said that the fisheries sector is continuously expanding be it under the aquaculture, post-harvest and capture fisheries sub-sectors, more so with the current focus and expansion on BFAR's mandate on fishery law enforcement. "We thus encourage students who have interest in fisheries to enroll in the course, as this is one of the few courses that is not yet saturated with graduates," the Regional Director, added. Maximino Prudencio.



Pinangunahan ni BFAR Region 02 Regional Director Dr. Milagros C. Morales (3rd from right) at Nueva Vizcaya Governor Ruth R. Padilla (2nd from right) ang Turn-Over Program of Fisheries Livelihood Projects kung saan tumanggap ng iba't-ibang proyekto katulad ng fish processing equipment, fishing gears, life vests at fish cages ang daan-daang mangingisda mula sa probinsya ng Nueva Vizcaya bilang tulong pangkabuhayan ng BFAR sa layuning maiangat ang antas ng pamumuhay ng mga mangingisda.

#### Mga fisheries products mula Rehiyon Dos, tampok sa isang food expo

Itinampok ang samu't-saring fisheries product mula Rehiyon Dos sa katatapos na Manila Foods and Beverages Expo o MAFBEX na idinaos sa World Trade Center sa Pasay City noong June 8 hanggang June 12 ngayong taon.

Layon ng nasabing foods and beverages expo na ipakita ang pinakabagong pagkain at inumin mula dito sa Pilipinas at maging sa ibang bansa.

Kabilang sa mga itinampok na fisheries products mula Rehiyon Dos ay ang dibang o one-day-old dried flying fish ng Batanes, seaweeds fortified products ng Women in Fisheries Enterprise mula Gonzaga, Cagayan, dried fish ng Punta Fisherfolk Association mula Aparri, Cagayan, tilapia longganisa mula sa Fish Processing Laboratory ng BFAR, alimango mula sa Buguey Cagayan na kilala bilang Crab Capital of the North, at lobsters ng Claveria, Cagayan.

Kumita ang BFAR ng nasa higit dalawampu't-limang libong piso. Ang kinita ng ahensya ay ibabalik sa mga asosasyson at indibidwal na nagpadala ng kanilang mga produkto.

Ayon kay Dr. Angel B. Encarnacion, pinuno ng Fisheries Post Harvest



and Marketing Division ng ahensya, inaasahan na sa pamamagitan ng foods and beverages expo na ito ay maipakilala sa mas maraming mamimili ang mga fisheries products ng Region 02 para kanilang tangkilikin.

Aniya, sa ganitong paraan mas matutulungan ng BFAR ang mga maliliit na negosyo lalu na ang mga namumuhunan sa mga produktong pangisdaan. Dagdag pa niya, layon ng ganitong gawain na matulungan ang mga mamumuhunan na makahanap ng merkado para sa kanilang mga produkto.

Ito ang kauna-unahang pagkakataon na lumahok sa MAFBEX ang BFAR dito sa Rehiyon Dos. 🛭 Donald Aguinaldo.

#### Higit isa at kalahating milyong bangus fry, ipinamahagi sa Cagayan



Nakapamahagi ang Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources o BFAR ng 1.640 milyon na bangus fry sa halos nasa dalawang daang mangingisda sa Cagayan.

Ang bayan ng Sta. Teresita ay nakatanggap ng 360, 000 bangus fry, habang ang Abulug, Aparri, Gonzaga at Buguey ay may kabuuang alokasyon na aabot sa 1, 280, 000 bangus fry.

Nakatakda namang ipamahagi ang natitira pa na halos isang milyong bangus fry sa mga mangingisda sa Sanchez Mira, Sta. Ana, at Sta. Teresita.

Ang mga mangingisda na tumanggap ng proyekto ay kabilang sa mga fishpond at fishcage operators sa naturang mga bayan.

Ayon kas Ms. Jennifer Tattao, Project Leader for Bangus Commodity ng BFAR, ang pamamahagi ng bangus fry ay bilang tulong sa hanapbuhay ng mga mangingisda. Sa ganitong paraan, sinabi ni Tattao na mapapataas ang produksyon ng bangus sa rehiyon.

Dagdag pa ni Tattao, binili ng BFAR ang mga bangus fry sa mga fisherfolk at gatherer mula Abulug, Pamplona, Buguey at Gonzaga kaya ito ay nagbigay ng adisyunal na kita sa kanila.

Hindi kagaya ngayon, ang mga bangus fry na ipinamahagi ng BFAR noong nakaraang taon ay binili pa ng ahensya mula sa pribadong hatchery sa Saranggani sa Mindanao dahil sa kakulangan ng supply sa lokal.

Positibo si Tattao na ang mga bangus fry na nakolekta sa mga baybayin ng Cagayan ay implikasyon ng pagtaas sa bilang nito sa wild o dagat.

Layon ngayon na maikumpara ang growth performance sa pagitan ng hatchery-bred bangus fry at iyong nanggaling mismo sa dagat. Donald Aguinaldo.

Limampung ektarya ng mangrove forest, tinamnan ng libulibong bakawan



Nagtulung-tulong ang nasa higit isang-daang residente mula Sta. Ana sa pagtatanim ng nasa isang daan at limampung libong mangrove propagules sa isinasagawang Mangrove Reforestation Project ng BFAR.

Katuwang sa proyektong ito ng ahensya ang Pasiguit Fisherfolk Association sa pangunguna ni Ginoong Jaime Yosores at ang Timpuyug Dagiti Mangngalap iti Abagatan iti Tangatan ni Ginoong Maximo Cua bo.

Tinatayang nasa limampung ektarya ang natamnam ng mangoves sa Brgy. Tangatan at Brgy. San Vicente sa nasabing bayan.

Layon ng proyekto na matamnam ang mga nakakalbong bakawanan o mangrove forest at mapalawak ang mangrove cover sa lugar.

Sinasabi ng mga syentipiko na may kaakibat na pagbaba sa bilang ng isda ang pagkasira ng mga mangrove forest.

Ito ay dahil sa nagsisilbi ang mga bakawanan bilang breeding and nursery ground at habitat sa maraming uri ng isda at iba pang yamang-dagat.

Bukod dito, nagsisilbing proteksyon sa mga baybayin ang mga mangroves laban sa malalakas na alon at bagyo.

Liban sa proteksyon na dulot ng mangroves, nagsisilbi ring kabuhayan sa mga lokal ang pagtatanim nito.

Ayon kay Ms. Apple Joy B. Usquisa, ang naatasang manguna sa proyekto sa rehiyon, binabayaran ang bawat mangingisda ng halagang apat na piso sa kada piraso ng mangrove propagule o punla na maitanim at saka babayaran ng dagdag na dalawang piso sa kada isang punla na nabuhay makalipas ang isang taon.

Aniya, mahalaga na makabahagi ang mga mangingisda lalu na ang mga nakatira malapit sa mga baybayin sa pagtatanim at pangangalaga ng mga mangroves dahil sila ang direktang makikinabang dito at ang kanilang komunidad.

> Dagdag Usquisa,

naging pamantayan sa pagpili ng mga benepisyaryo ang kanilang pagganap noong nakaraang mga implementasyon ng proyekto kung saan malaking porsyento ng kanilang mga naitanim ay dapat nabuhay at availability na lugar na maaari pana tamnam ng mga bakawan.

Mula 2011, nasa halos 1.9 million propagules mangrove na ang naitanim sa bayan ng Sta. Ana ng mga samahan ng mangingisda.

"Naging malaki ang tulong ng proyekto para mapatatag ang mga samahan ng mangingisda. Ilan sa kanila ay ginagamit ang pera na kinita para mapaunlad ang kanilang asosasyon katulad na lamang ng Pasiguit Fisherfolk Association," ani Ms. Usquisa.

Aniya, nakapagpatayo nasabing asosayon ng sariling opisina, nakabili ng mga fishing gears at bangka, at napalawak ang kanilang pinagkukunan ng kabuhayan gamit ang mga naipong pera mula sa proyekto.

Dagdag pa ni Ms. Usquisa, mabibili na rin ng asosasyon ang lupa kung saan nakatayo ang kabahayan ng ilang mga miyembro nito.

"Nagagalak kami sa ahensya sa direksyon na tinatahak ng mga samahan ng mangingisda dito sa rehiyon kagaya ng pinapangarap para sa kanila noong nagsisimula pa lang ang proyekto, pahayag niya. 🖸 Donald Aguinaldo.

Chinese poachers pay Php 9M...from p1
pending clearance from other

concerned agencies.

In other fishery law enforcement related development, the Bureau and PCG have confiscated last week five buli-buli (modified Danish seine) fishing gears from local commercial fishing boats plying municipal waters of Gonzaga and Buguey towns, this province. Confiscation would compel the owners to convert to other legallyallowed types of fishing gears, Agaloos

have also confiscated last Monday, secured 4 boxes of aquarium fish, which were concerned government agencies. without transport papers. (released June 24.) Maximino Prudencio.



#### **Editors Note**

Lady Luck 020 was released last BFAR RO2 fishery law enforcers August 10, 2016 after crew successfully clearance

## **BFAR 2 sets plans for 2016**

The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources in Region 2 will implement 'targeted interventions' meant to deliver assistance to the most in need, this year.

The interventions are projects culled from BFAR's national anti-poverty program known as Targeted Actions to Reduce Poverty and Generate Economic Transformation (TARGET).

Projects under the TARGET, according to BFAR RO2 Planning Chief Dr. Angel Encarnacion, include the establishment of Community Fish Landing Centers (CFLC) and distribution of livelihood projects and assistance such as fish cages, fishing boats, fishing gears and paraphernalia, marine engines, and post-harvest equipment.

The agency has planned for the establishment of CFLCs in the towns of Aparri, Buguey, Gattaran, Gonzaga, Lallo, Abulug, Claveria, Pamplona in Cagayan province and Divilacan, Palanan, Dinapigue and Roxas, in Isabela, this year. These are in addition to the CFLCs in Calayan, Sta. Praxedes, Sanchez Mira and Ballesteros in Cagayan, and in Uyugan, Batanes targeted in 2015. Last year's targets are still on the preparatory stage and will be established this year.

The CFLCs will provide a better venue for post-harvest handling and processing. Said infrastructure will also serve as a place for the conduct of meetings, seminars, and similar activities to facilitate sharing of information and knowledge, and facilitate organizational development of fisherfolk.

According to Encarnacion, the Bureau has hired a number of field personnel designated as Fishery Livelihood Development Technicians, who shall take charge in the implementation of TARGET as well as the regular projects of the agency.

Other special projects / programs include the National Shellfish Development Program, the National Crab Production and Livelihood Program, the National Inland Fisheries Enhancement Program, fisherfolk and boat registration (FishR & BoatR) and the Philippine National Aquasilviculture Program.

Under the shellfish development program, the agency has targeted the establishment of 500 oyster rafts in the coastal towns of Cagayan and Isabela. Unlike most aquaculture species, the culture of oyster does not require artificial or commercial feeds,

thereby offering possibility for higher income.

PNAP, now on its sixth year, has set the planting of 0.75 million mangrove propagules under its mangrove rehabilitation component. Areas to be planted are distributed in the coastal towns of Isabela and Cagayan.

On its regular targets, the agency has set the establishment of technodemo projects and conduct of trainings on aquaculture, fish capture and fish processing. The Bureau also aims to produce and distribute around 17 million pieces fingerlings this year. These are in addition to other activities of the agency aligned with its deliverables on policy services, technical advisory services, fishery productivity, regulatory services and supply of infrastructure facilities and equipment.

"To achieve inclusive growth, we have tailored selection of beneficiaries on some of our regular projects with the TARGET program. This means beneficiaries will really be the 'poorest of the poor' in their communities. We will also bolster enforcement of fishery laws in line with the thrust of our Bureau Director," BFAR RO2 Regional Director Milagros Morales, said. Maximino Prudencio.

## BFAR 2 intensifies anti-blast fishing campaign

TUGUEGARAO CITY, CAGAYAN – The fisheries bureau in Region 02 has intensified its anti-blast fishing campaign in a bid to put a halt to the highly destructive and illegal fishing method.

Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources – Region 02 Fishery Law Enforcement Chief, Atty. Samuel Agaloos said that the agency is set to install anti-blast fishing posters in all hotspots in Region 02 and utilize all information dissemination capabilities at the disposal of the agency, as well as focus operations of its Quick Response Team, against blast fishing.

The posters, according to Agaloos, indicate the QRT hotline where concerned citizens can place a call. "Immediately our QRT can be tasked to verify the information and act on the report," Agaloos said.

According to a study made by BFAR, a typical blast affects a water volume equivalent to 8 million cubic

meters. At an estimated density of 3,000 pieces per 100 cu.m. of fish eggs, larvae and juvenile, economic loss is pegged at P 24,000.00 per blast. Not factored in are the destruction wrought to the marine environment or fish habitat including the injured matured fish. The fish that are injured in the blast, but are not caught, will eventually die, according to the report.

Blast fishing is prohibited under Sec. 92 of RA 10654 and carries a maximum penalty of ten years imprisonment and penalty ranging from thirty thousand to three million pesos. Mere possession of dynamite for fishing is punishable by maximum of 2 years imprisonment and fine from ten thousand to one million pesos.

Possession or selling of illegally caught fish, on the other hand, is punishable by up to 2 years imprisonment and fine of up to five hundred thousand pesos. The act is prohibited under Sec. 126 of the same Code.

Agaloos revealed that BFAR RO2 fishery law enforcers have intensified seaborne and land-based operations, since the start of Holy Week, resulting to a number of apprehensions. Further, Agaloos added that the bigger MCS patrol boats have started their summer deployment in Region 02 to conduct anti-illegal fishing, including anti-poaching, operations.

The MCS boats will also serve as means of conveyance to deliver fishery services in far flung areas, in line with the annual technology caravan of BFAR RO2.

"We urge our fishers who continue to use dynamite in fishing to stop. While we do not take delight in apprehending our local fishers, we have no choice but to implement the law for the benefit of the common good," BFAR RO2 Regional Director Milagros Morales said. Maximino Prudencio.

## Complaint filed vs blast fishers from Gonzaga



TUGUEGARAO CITY, CAGAYAN – Thanks to a timely tip from a concerned citizen, combined elements of the fisheries bureau here and the Philippine Coast Guard, were able to apprehend last Friday (April 22), two alleged blast fishers in Gonzaga town, this province.

According to BFAR Fishery Law Enforcer Alan Alipio, they were on a Travel Order to conduct anti-IUUF (Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported Fishing) operations that day when he received a phone call informing him of ongoing blast fishing activities within Purok Namnama in Barangay Baua, Gonzaga.

Upon receiving the information, Alipio said that he immediately devised

a plan and requested assistance from his counterparts, stationed that time in Port Irene, Sta. Ana. Two teams were formed – one for seaborne and the other for land-based operation.

When the seaborne team arrived at the designated area, Alipio said that the suspects tried to run away, but the land-based team, which was ideally positioned, initiated the apprehension.

Found in possession of the suspects were one bottle of improvised dynamite, one blasting cap, and fish samples. The fish samples were examined and found to be caught thru explosive, while the improvised dynamite was confiscated and will be submitted to the PNP Crime Laboratory

for examination.

Thereafter, the suspects were brought to the Office of Provincial Prosecutor in Aparri, Cagayan where they were charged for violation of Sec. 92 (a) of RA 10654. As of now, the suspects are detained in BJMP, in same town.

If found guilty, the suspects identified as Conrado dela Cruz and Ramses dela Cruz can face 5 to 10 years imprisonment, confiscation of gears and payment of fine.

According to a study made by BFAR, a typical blast affects a water volume equivalent to 8 million cubic meters. At an estimated density of 3,000 pieces per 100 cu.m. of fish eggs, larvae and juvenile, economic loss is pegged at P 24,000.00 per blast. Not factored in are the destruction wrought to the marine environment or fish habitat including the injured matured fish. The fish that are injured in the blast, but are not caught, will eventually die, according to the report.

BFAR RO2 Regional Director Milagros C. Morales, lauded the accomplishment of the apprehending team and also expressed her gratitude to the informant. "We encourage everyone to join us in the fight against illegal fishing. Not only the livelihood of legitimate fisherfolk is at stake but also the health or productivity of the marine environment," the Regional Director, added. Maximino Prudencio.

## BFAR R02 staff trained in coral reefs assessment and monitoring

The two-day Training on Coral Reefs Assessment and Monitoring was held at the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Regional Office No. 02 (BFAR R02) and was participated in by trained scuba divers and technical staff of BFAR R02.

The training included lectures and workshops on Coral Reefs Assessment Using LIT or Line Intercept Transect Method, and Fish Visual Census.

Coastal Resource Management (CRM) expert Mr. Alan N. Alipio of BFAR R02 said the training aims to prepare the participants with the knowledge and skills on the assessment and monitoring of coral reefs in Region 02.

Joining Alipio as lecturer was Mr. Alejandro A. Belen of the Zoological Society of London in the Philippines, an international non-government organization (NGO), and an expert in

coral reefs assessment and monitoring.

Belen lectured on Fish Visual
Census.

Alipio said a Coral Survey Team and Fish Visual Census Team in BFAR R02 will be formed to this effect in order to strengthen the focus on coral reefs protection, conservation, and proper management in the region.

In his talk, he told 70 percent of the total coral reefs area of the Philippines is highly degraded and fish production had decreased by 50 percent as a result.

The CRM expert said coral reef assessment and monitoring is important to determine the present condition of coral reefs in Region 02.

"The results of the assessment will be useful in coming up with coastal environment profile, which will become the basis in CRM planning and decisionmaking," he said.

The actual assessment and monitoring or the practicum part of the training, however, was postponed and will resume as soon as unfavorable weather and sea conditions in the sites begin to normalize. © Donald Aguinaldo.



Mr. Alejandro A. Belen (3rd from left) supervises the trainees during a workshop on the use of various methods on coral reefs assessment.

## BFAR 2 sets free confiscated aquarium fish

TUGUEGARAO CITY, Cagayan – It's certainly a new lease on life for some lovely creatures, as personnel of the fisheries bureau here recently released five boxes of confiscated aquarium fish.

The aquarium fish, numbering about 235 pieces and composed of 28 species were released at the Palaui Marine Protected Area in Sta. Ana, Cagayan, in coordination with the LGU – Sta. Ana and local police.

According to Atty. Samuel Agaloos, Chief of the Fisheries Resource Management, Regulatory and Law Enforcement Division, the shipment was confiscated after traces of sodium cyanide were found on the samples that were submitted for analysis. The shipment came from a consolidator in Sta. Ana, Cagayan. "The shipper was supposed to secure transport permit from BFAR, but we required him to have the shipment be analyzed first,"Agaloos said.

Sec. 92 of RA 10654 prohibits fishing thru the use explosives, noxious or poisonous substances or thru electricity. Violation to the said provision carries a judicial penalty of 5 to 10 years imprisonment and a fine of sixtythousand pesos for municipal fishing.

The use of cyanide in fishing is known to cause coral destruction and is toxic to the marine environment and fisherfolk involved.



BFAR RO2 personnel led by PFAO Venchito Villarao with LGU Sta. Ana and PNP Sta. Ana, releases the confiscated aquarium fish in Palaui Marine Protected Area in Sta. Ana, Cagayan in this photo taken June 2, 2016.

Analysis was made at the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resource – Region 02 Cyanide Detection Test Laboratory here.

Following this development, the BFAR Provincial Office based in Aparri, Cagayan and fishery law enforcers of the agency, launched an inspection on all known aquarium fish consolidators in Sta. Ana to prevent similar cases.

"We need to protect the ornamental fish industry and at

the same time the environment," Provincial Fisheries Action Officer Venchito Villarao said. A more detailed information campaign will be held in the coming weeks, Villarao added.

Agaloos said that with the availability of CDT Laboratory in Region 02, all aquarium fish shippers will now be required to submit samples of all aquarium fishes they intend to transport for analysis, prior to issuance of transport permit. Maximino Prudencio.

# Apat na bayan sa palibot ng Magat Dam, prayoridad ang pangangalaga sa dam

Prayoridad ngayon ng mga bayan sa palibot ng Magat Dam ang masiguro na wasto ang ginagawang pamamahala at pangangalaga ng dam na may mahalagang papel hindi lamang sa irigasyon kundi sa pamumuhay ng mga residente.

Papangunahan ito ng mga bagong-halal na opisyales ng Magat Integrated Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council o IFARMC sa pangunguna ng kanilang presidente na si Ginoong Johny Buyawe.

Binubuo ang IFARMC ng mga bayan ng Ramon at Cordon, Isabela, Diadi, Nueva Vizcaya, at Alfonso Lista, Ifugao kung saan ang mga pangunahing miyembro ay mga mangingisda at mga fishcage operators sa dam. Magsisilbi ang IFARMC bilang saligan at tagamungkahi sa lahat ng usapin na may kinalaman sa pangisdaan sa Magat Dam.

Sa ginanap na Oath-taking Ceremony, hinimok ng presidente ng IFARMC na si Ginoong Johny Buyawe ang mga kasamahan na gampanan ang kanilang tungkulin at itaguyod ang pangangalaga sa Magat Dam para sa interes ng susunod na mga henerasyon.

Dumalo rin sa seremonya si Regional Director Milagros C. Morales ng BFAR Region 02 at Regional Director Lilibeth L. Signey ng BFAR Cordillera Administrative Region.

Binigyang diin ng dalawang Regional Director ang pagtutulungan ng bawat bayan na miyembro ng organisasyon. Donald Aguinaldo.

#### **IFARMC Magat Officers**

President: Johnny C. Buyawe
Vice Pres.: Arnel Lobos
Secretary: Virgin Ongayon
Treasurer: Cesar Bahiwag
Auditor: Warlito Domingo
PRO: Isabela - Silvestre Tagapan Jr.
Ifugao - Jerry Taccaban
Sgt. At Arms: John Apangchan
Dominic Rabino
Regilio Taccaban
Ericson Saet

## Seaweed processing technology

#### "GURAMAN" CHIPS

#### Ingredients:

1/2 cup "guraman" puree

1/2 cup flour

1 tsp. white/black pepper

1 tsp. baking powder

1 tsp. onion powder

1 tsp. salt

1 tsp. garlic powder



#### Procedure:

- 1. Combine all dry ingredients and mix well.
- 2. Add "guraman" puree and mix thoroughly to produce dough.
- 3. Knead/run through a noodle machine.
- 4. Cut into desired size/shape and deep fry.
- 5. Cool, pack and label.
- 6. Keep in a cool and dry place.

#### "GURAMAN" NOODLES CANTON STYLE

#### Ingredients:

1 cup "guraman" puree 3 cups all purpose flour 1/2 tsp. salt

#### Procedure:

 Combine all dry ingredients, add "guraman" puree then mix thoroughly.

2. Knead/run through a noodle machine.

- 3. Cut into noodles strand, place in a molder and deep fry.
- 4. Cool, pack and label.
- 5. Keep in a cool and dry place.

#### **HEALTH BENEFITS OF SEAWEEDS**

It keeps thyroid gland healthy.

- 2. It keeps heart healthy.
- 3. It relaxes nerves and muscles.
- 4. It keeps bones and teeth healthy and strong.
- 5. It helps prevent anemia.
- 6. It helps you to sleep better.
- 7. It protects human against cancer.
- 8. It prevents in flammation.
- 9. It helps maintain blood sugar levels.
- 10. It promotes weight loss, cellulite control and detoxication.
- 11. It is 10 to 20 times higher in vitamins, minerals and amino acids compared to plants that grow on land.

Source: www.oceanvegetables.com

#### PREPARATION OF "GURAMAN" PUREE

#### Ingredients:

100 g. dried "guraman"

4 cups water

5 tbsp. calamansi juice/vinegar

#### Procedure:

Refresh the dried "guraman" for one hour and wash. Add calamansi juice/vinegar and cook for 15 minutes in a covered pan. This will be needed in the preparation of value added products from seaweeds.

#### PICKLED "GURAMAN"

#### Ingredients:

100 g. dried "guraman"

3 cups vinegar

3 cups brown sugar

1/4 kg. sliced carrots

1/8 kg. sliced onions

1/8 kg. sliced garlic

1/8 kg. sliced ginger

1/8 kg. raisin

1 cup pineapple tidbits

# PRINCE VIEW SET

#### Procedure:

- 1. Refresh and wash "guraman" thoroughly and boil in a covered pan for 5 minutes.
- 2. In a separate casserole, combine sugar and vinegar. Boil also for 15 to 20 minutes to produce pickling syrup.
- 3. While boiling, blanch the entire remaining ingredients for a minute and set aside.
- 4. Continue boiling the pickling solution for 15 more minutes or until it becomes sticky.
- 5. Cool the syrup for 30 minutes. Pack "guraman" and arrange the ingredients in a sterilized bottle and label. (For better result, product should be consumed after a week.)
- 6. Keep in a cool and dry place.

\*Refresh "guraman" means soaking the dried "guraman" in tap water for an hour to absorb water.

REPORT ILLEGAL FISHING ACTIVITIES THRU BFAR RO2 QRT HOTLINE: (GLOBE( 0977(824(1967

(SMART( 0949(880(2338