



## **COMMUNITY-BASED COASTAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

THE EXPERIENCE OF THE  
ANDA, PANGASINAN PROGRAM

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The protection and rehabilitation of inland and coastal environment has been currently recognized as a necessary step in decelerating further marginalization of poor farmers and fisherfolk, degradation of ecosystems and depletion of resources, and the non-viability of the industries based on them. Very recently, the users of inland and coastal environment have been identified as among the most effective stewards. While the government has been expressing concern over the environment through its public statements and various policies and laws, much is to be desired in terms of its enforcement.

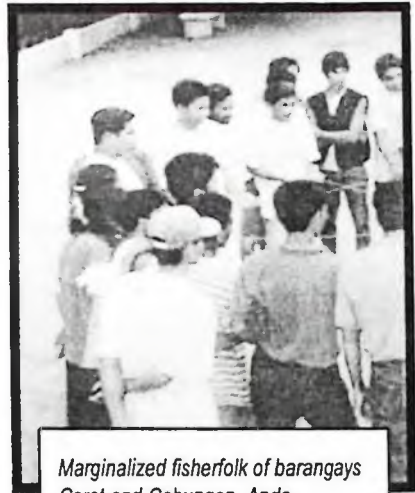
In most instances, environment protection is given up in favor of industrialization and economic benefits, and mostly to the detriment of the poor majority. In many experiences, it has been proven that the active and meaningful participation of communities in the protection and management of the environment is a greatly viable option. Along the major coastlines of the Philippine archipelago, it is hoped that such experiences may be replicated. The effective protection and rehabilitation of inland

and coastal environment often lies greatly in the poor communities, whose resource base for survival is being threatened. But active and meaningful participation lies in the degree of environmental awareness of people.

The present enormous environmental and social problems besetting our communities are indicative of the need to enhance people's awareness on environmental protection and knowledge on management. The resources continue to decline due to massive exploitation. Thus, more and more resources, whether inland or marine, that are economically and ecologically important to people are becoming scarce. This condition is unfortunately reflected in the environment situation of the island-municipality of Anda, Pangasinan.

Current trends of development here call for an extensive campaign on environmental awareness and education. Wanton establishment of fishpens, destructive fishing methods (e.g. dynamite, cyanide, and fine-meshed nets), mangrove conversion into fishponds, and poor implementation of environmental laws are just some of the issues identified that affect the status of the environment.

Recognizing this need, the Community Based-Coastal Resource Management Resource Center at the UP College of Social Work and Community Development would like



*Marginalized fisherfolk of barangays Carot and Cabungan, Anda municipality are the priority target groups of development education towards environmental protection.*

to assist the people of the island-municipality of Anda by undertaking development education toward environmental protection and coastal resource management. Its priority target groups are the marginalized fisherfolk in the barangays of Carot and Cabungan.

## THE PROGRAM SITE



*The Municipality of Anda.* Anda is one of the eighteen municipalities bordering the Lingayen Gulf and part of the Bolinao-Anda reef system that serves as



the breeding ground for marine organisms of the gulf. It has a total land area of 83.80 square kilometers and a population of 30,000 people living in 18 barangays. Fishing and farming are the main economic activities of the people. On the west across a narrow body of water known as the Kakiputan Channel is the municipality of Bolinao. The municipality of Bani is situated southwest of Anda, while the town of Alaminos lies directly south.

The municipality of Anda is an entirely rural community composed of eighteen (18) barangays including the poblacion and an island barangay north of mainland Anda. It covers a total land area of 8,379 hectares of which 4,956 is devoted to pasture land, fishponds, and other land use.

In 1978, 2,094 household heads or 59.6 percent of the total population were employed in agriculture, 19.1 percent in fishing, and the rest in livestock raising, small-scale cottage industries and other economic activities. With no less than 59.1 percent of its total land area devoted to crop production, the majority of its inhabitants are dependent on agricultural production for their livelihood.

Majority of the farmers own the land they till. The 1978 data revealed that there were only 230 tenants comprising nine percent of the total number of farmers in the area. Most farmers use the plow and harrow in preparing their fields; only a few use mechanised farm implements.

Fishing ranks second to farming as a source of livelihood. Majority are municipal fishers engaged in shallow water fishing using various gears. Their major fishing grounds are the reef areas in the Lingayen Gulf and some parts of the China Sea. Major commercial fish species caught include snapper, siganids, crabs, bangus, grouper and shrimps.

The volume of fish production annually is estimated at 2,517.5 metric tons. Since local fish requirement of the whole municipality is placed at 67,133 metric tons only, no less than 1,846.17 metric tons of fisheries products are being exported to different places every year. It is believed that Anda supplies more than fifty percent of the fisheries products sold in Alaminos town, the commercial center of Western Pangasinan.

Fishponds cover an area of around 276 hectares with an average annual production of 79,406 metric tons. Major culture products include milkfish and prawns. Studies (McManus, et. al., 1990) point out the strategic importance of the Bolinao-Anda reef system in the preservation and maintenance of the carrying capacity of the entire Lingayen Gulf.

The island of Anda occupies a critical point in the effort towards the maintenance and protection of coastal

and marine resources in the country. The presence of different ecosystems, both in coastal/marine and inland areas, makes it an ideal site for the 'modeling' of a small-island sustainable natural resource management program. In terms of area where initiatives toward coastal resource protection and management are being undertaken, the island lies between two areas where there are existing ones: Bolinao and the Hundred Islands.

In relation to coastal resource degradation, the issue/problem was heightened because of the Bolinao cement plant controversy, which generated interest among the people in the island. At the start of the Anda CBCRM program last year, it was found that there were various initiatives, both at the barangay and the municipal levels, toward environmental protection.

With majority of the population heavily dependent on coastal/marine and inland resources for their household subsistence, the need for appropriate and sustainable resource management and livelihood activities is a very critical concern.

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

*Program Framework and Approaches.* This participatory action research program seeks to lay the foundation of a self-sustaining initiative for resource management and economic development, with the community as the core initiator and implementer. Steps in that direction necessarily require an interactive and integrated approach.

An interactive approach takes off from the realization that for any program to be successful, the participation of the direct users and stakeholders is crucial. But this pragmatic consideration is not the only reason for involving the community in the entire process. A meaningful community empowerment posits that the community should have control over, access to and management of the resources. The community's participation in the entire process is thus a mechanism

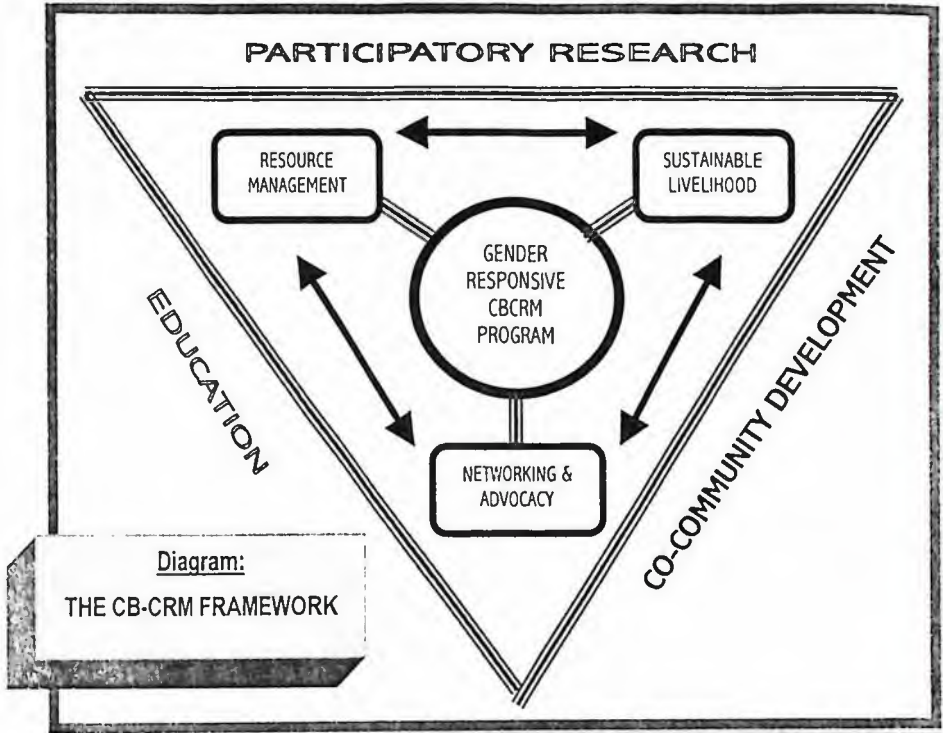


for enhancing their capacity to eventually become the resource managers. The interaction that takes place is a two-way learning process between the community and the program facilitators to enrich the expertise of both in CBCRM. The approach is also utilized due to a conscious effort toward a situation wherein the intervening entity is becoming gradually irrelevant and the community taking the lead role.

The program also aims to employ an integrated approach owing to the multiplicity of resource management issues to be addressed. These range from the ecological, socio-economic to the legal/institutional, and the rubrics of their interrelationships are usually complex. Any partial solution -- focusing only on the technical or the social aspect separately -- short of an integrated one may only further aggravate the problem. An integrated approach deals with the ecological, socio-economic, legal/institutional and gender issues and their interactions. It will harness the expertise of both the natural and social sciences, in academe and other independent development organizations.

In all these components, and in all the facets of the program, there will be an underlying recognition of the need to address gender concerns as well. Gender issues will be looked into and activities in response to such will be undertaken within the scope of the CBCRM program. In all the stages of the process, the participation of women will be encouraged. Venues for their self-realization, for women initiated actions and for the valuation of their roles in the productive, reproductive and community management spheres will be provided. This is in line with the realization that any CBCRM program also has to address this longstanding marginalization of women in the various spheres of community life, particularly in the arena of resource management.

The Anda CBCRM program will employ the basic approaches namely, PARTICIPATORY RESEARCH, COMMUNITY ORGANIZING - COMMUNITY



DEVELOPMENT and EDUCATION to ensure its interactive and integrated nature towards resource management and sustainability of livelihood activities. Through these approaches, close interrelationship and coordination of all the program components will be established in order to effectively address the issues of poverty and resource sustainability through people's participation.

In the search for a sustainable resource management and livelihood development, the above framework seeks to establish a research program that bridges the gap between theory and practice, action and reflection. By initiating a development process where community action is enlightened by concrete, scientific analysis and knowledge generation is practice-based, the Anda research program hopes to improve on existing CBCRM strategies and approaches and/or to develop alternative ways.

The integration of participatory research will guarantee the participation of primary stakeholders, both women and men, to identify and analyze the issues and problems confronting their community. Such knowledge generation based on people's experience will help build a high level of awareness and motivation to resolve their own problems. It seeks to provide guidance on how to go about doing community organizing-community development (CO-CD) and to enrich the content and method of the community's education activities.

Community organizing-community development, as a learning and problem solving strategy, will enable both women and men involved in the program to develop organized forms and methods of confronting both immediate and strategic problems/needs. CO-CD ensures the laying down of the structures and mechanisms for sustained education and participatory action research.

In any community-based program, sustained education is very critical in maintaining people's interest and organized action towards environment protection and poverty alleviation. This aspect is enriched by participatory action research that draws learning/insights from the community's collective action/reflection.

The Anda CBCRM program can be considered both as a continuation and expansion of the Bolinao CBCRM project. In terms of area, it will expand coverage of the earlier project to the southern portion of the Gulf's broader coral reef system by initiating the CBCRM process in the eight coastal villages of Anda town.

On the other hand, the Anda program is distinct in that it hopes to address new research questions on the relevance of CBCRM as a development strategy that addresses the unique nature of island ecosystems. Hence, it will take off from and build on the Bolinao CBCRM experience by exploring new strategies and approaches



in coastal community organizing, livelihood development and resource management through participatory methods in research, community education, planning, project monitoring and evaluation.

As a strategy for sustainable development, CBCRM seeks to empower people to manage, protect and rehabilitate their coastal resources in order to sustain the well being of the environment, while at the same time maintaining its carrying capacity for people's basic needs. In this regard, the program will facilitate the formation of local organizations and build up their capacities to undertake sustainable resource management and livelihood projects.

As a prototype that will focus on developing island-based natural resource management strategies, the whole Anda CBCRM program is considered as a research undertaking that hopes to come up with concrete praxis on the concepts, processes and structures of people empowerment and



community-based resource management. The new concepts and innovative processes learned from an island-based CBCRM implementation may help to refine and clarify the design and implementing strategies of programs in island municipalities.

In particular, the Anda CBCRM will undertake an ecosystem-based organizing. Emanating from the concept of "biocentric egalitarianism", this type of organizing recognizes the inherent value of richness and diversity of nature. It seeks to rediscover the principle of interdependence and interconnectedness of humans and various ecosystems by making people aware of its importance as resource base for family/community survival. Ecosystem-based organizing will focus on small scale, self-sufficient resource management projects, with boundaries defined by natural features such as coastal/marine ecosystems, watersheds, vegetation, etc. Organizing effort will target direct users/stakeholders from one or various communities that share such a common resource base.

Gender-sensitive CBCRM recognizes the important role women and men play in resource use and management. However, because of prevailing gender division of labor, most women are prevented from assuming an active role in environment protection and maintenance while they face the problem of sustaining household survival with meager incomes.

*Program Components.* All of the program components, namely RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD DEVELOPMENT and NETWORKING AND ADVOCACY, proceed from the participatory research, education and community organizing-community development processes that laid the foundation for a sustainable CBCRM.

(a) Resource Management

This program component focuses on developing and evaluating resource use and management options based

on the community's analysis of prevailing conditions and issues confronting them. Consistent with the ecosystem based organizing thrust, the resource management program seeks to address problems/issues related to a specific ecosystem within a particular geographical unit or one encompassing existing several geographical units.

Management options to be considered will include (but will not be limited to) community-based management of fishery resources, reef and mangrove resources in coastal/marine areas and inland natural resources in line with resource protection, rehabilitation and sustainable utilization. More importantly, indigenous management practices will be identified and determined in order to adapt or integrate them into the CRM plan.



*As a strategy for sustainable development, CBCRM seeks to empower people to manage, protect and rehabilitate their coastal resources to sustain the well being of the environment while maintaining its carrying capacity for people's basic needs.*

#### (b) Sustainable Livelihood

This component seeks to establish an integrated program that will enable the community to address its daily subsistence. Emanating from environmental regeneration and protection, sustainable livelihood programs/projects must consider people's conditions, capabilities and culture in the development of appropriate technologies suitable to environment. A means in organizing the community will be the

establishment of income generating enterprises and cooperative ventures that will provide income and basic social services without sacrificing the community's livelihood resource base. This will facilitate access to opportunities and resources that will hopefully increase individual or household income and/or reduce cost of living.

(c) Networking and Advocacy

The advocacy component focuses on advocating for a planned and sustainable use of the resources through a resource management plan. The advocacy for planned use will be one of the main functions of the people's organizations.

There will be two arenas for advocating coastal resource management - the community at large which consists of other direct users, stakeholders and affected groups, and the policy makers which include the local executive and legislative bodies, the line agencies of the government and the barangay officials.

Advocating the Resource Management Plan (RMP) with the community entails brokering resource use conflicts among direct users, increasing their awareness

on the RMP and generating support for its advocacy to the policy makers. The establishment of necessary mechanisms will be facilitated as



*The Anda CBCRM utilizes an ecosystem-based organizing, a type of organizing that recognizes the inherent value of the richness and diversity of nature. It makes people aware of the importance of the resource base for family/community survival.*

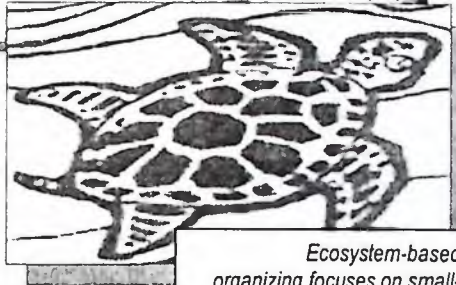


venues for advocating the RMP to other resource users and affected groups.

The advocacy towards the policy makers will be undertaken to provide support and legal backing and mandate for the implementation of the community resource management plans. Necessary structures for management (the authority instrument) will be formed. These structures can take the form of resource management, tripartite councils or any other appropriate form of authority instrument for resource management.

Another area of work within this component is the engagement of the community organizations and program implementers with the network of CBCRM practitioners to generate outside support for the program as well. This will ensure the necessary backing not only within the area but also outside, for the implementation of the CBCRM in Anda.

On the other hand, the local practitioners in Anda can also facilitate exchange of information and experiences through the network, leading to enhanced awareness of other CBCRM programs.



*Ecosystem-based organizing focuses on small-scale, self-sufficient resource management projects, with boundaries defined by natural features such as coastal/marine ecosystems, watersheds, vegetation, etc. Organizing efforts target direct users/stakeholders from one or various communities that share a common resource base.*



**PROGRAM PLAN: JANUARY – JULY 1998**

<b>PLAN OF ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>JAN</b>	<b>FEB</b>	<b>MAR</b>	<b>APR</b>	<b>MAY</b>	<b>JUN</b>	<b>JUL</b>	<b>AUG</b>
<b>PARTICIPATORY RESEARCH FOR COMMUNITY ORGANIZING &amp; PLANNING</b>								
1. Participatory Rural Appraisal: Barangay Carot and Cabangon	✓*	✓*	✓	✓*				
2. Resource Assessment: Carot and Cabangon				✓*	✓*			
3. Legal/ Institutional Studies				✓*	✓*			
<b>EDUCATION AND TRAINING</b>								
1. Coastal Resource Management Orientation Seminar: Cabangon and Carot						✓*	✓	
2. PRA Skills Training	✓*			✓*				
<b>COMMUNITY ORGANIZING-COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT</b>								
1. Core group formation				✓*	✓*	✓*		
2. Formation of People's Organization						✓*	✓*	
3. Community Planning						✓*	✓*	✓*

**PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION**

**Participatory Research for  
Community Organizing and Planning**

Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA). A Participatory Rural Appraisal was conducted in Barangay Carot & Cabangon, Anda, Pangasinan. The objective of the

PRA was to gather baseline information about the community through people's participation in the whole process. Prior to the development of a participatory research design, a preliminary consultation was conducted to determine the focus of the appraisal. This was done to avoid the tendency of having an overload of data that may not be needed immediately. In relation to the plan of initiating a community-based coastal resource management program, it was decided that the PRA would focus on fishing gear inventory, land and marine resource mapping, household mapping, seasonality calendar of livelihood, historical timeline and problem/issues identification and prioritization.

Before the activity was conducted, the PRA team identified some of the potential research partners in two barangays. In Cabungan, there were four (4) local research partners while in Carot there were five (5). The same number of women research partners from each barangay participated. The local research partners were assisted by a group of Community Development students in the conduct of the PRA. Focused group discussions and key informant interviews were the methodologies used to facilitate broader community sharing, with separate groupings for women and men.

In the data collation and analysis, the local partners fully participated as planned for they would be the ones to facilitate the community validation process.



The validation session showed a consensus that coral reefs are destroyed because of illegal and destructive methods of fishing such as blast fishing and the use of sodium cyanide. The participants realized that poor enforcement of laws and regulations contribute greatly to the widespread destruction of coastal/marine resources. With less opportunity and access to other resources necessary for the development of alternative or supplementary sources of income, the resource users heavily relied on marine resources for household survival. Overfishing has put intense pressure on the ecosystem, hence, the fast decline of fish catch.

Through the PRA, the people were able to deepen their understanding of the present condition of their fishing ground and their economic status. Aside from this, they were able to realize the need to protect and manage their remaining coastal resources. On the program level, the PRA was able to facilitate the establishment of an initial baseline information on the two barangays, important in future planning and programming.

*Resource Assessment.* As a result of the community discussion on the PRA, there were several important problems identified by the participants that demanded immediate concrete actions. Aside from the overwhelming need to have an organization that could carry out a CBCRM program, it was deemed important to undertake a deeper study of the status of the barangay marine resources. While most of the fisherfolk have knowledge of these resources, a resource assessment is seen as necessary in order to come up with a total picture of the whole barangay waters through the use of some scientific methods. By having an analysis of the present coastal/marine condition, community organizing and planning would have concrete basis. In terms of environment education, the resource assessment data would best serve in helping the community residents realize the need to protect and preserve the basic source of their livelihood.

With the assistance of a Volunteer Service Overseas (VSO) marine biologist, the resource assessment was conducted in partnership with some local fisherfolk. Orientation sessions were conducted with them, clarifying the objectives and importance of the activity in relation to future actions that could be undertaken. It was followed by a week-long training on the "Manta Tow" technique as a method of assessing the resources, primarily the coral reefs. Four fisherfolk from each barangay finished the training, while the others came in for one or two days only. Nevertheless, many of them participated during the actual 'Manta Tow' survey.

The survey covered three specific fishing grounds in each barangay for a period of two weeks. The local partners prepared maps and other visual materials. With regard to the technical side, the VSO volunteer took charge and ensured that the local partners had a deeper understanding of what and how to do the survey.

After the survey in each barangay, collation and data analysis were conducted with the local partners. Survey site maps were made and important data put into them in popular form for presentation to the community. A technical report on the activity was written by the volunteer and submitted to the Resource Center.

*Legal/Institutional Studies.* The legal/institutional study was conducted primarily by a group of Community Development masteral students who did their summer fieldwork in the area. Most of the activities related to this study involved visiting the different regional and provincial offices of government agencies like Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), Lingayen Gulf Coastal Area Management Commission and the Municipal office in Anda. The objective of these visits was to secure copies of laws, directives, administrative orders and implementing guidelines related to coastal/marine resource utilization and management. Aside from the widely known national laws





on fishery resource use and management, the study was able to unearth various municipal ordinances related to the regulation of the use of municipal waters which had been promulgated as early as the sixties. One document contained an ordinance that promulgated a division of the municipal waters into barangay fishing areas.

An analysis of the various laws, orders, resolutions and ordinances enacted or promulgated by different levels of government has not yet been conducted. This would need the assistance of a legal expert to determine its implications to CBCRM program.

### Education and Training

#### *Orientation Seminars on Coastal Resource Management.*

A CRM orientation seminar was conducted in each barangay: Cabungan and Carot. The objective of the orientation was to have a community discussion on the current fishery resource situation and the major issues and/or problems that contribute to its continued degradation. A major input in the seminar were the Resource Assessment



results in easy to understand maps and graphs. The local fishers who participated in the activity in both barangays were given the major responsibility to explain the results and implications of their findings.

It has been observed that the discussion greatly raised the participants' level of awareness about the conditions of their coastal/marine resources. Having heard hard facts from their fellow fishers, they were greatly moved and convinced that something must be done about the situation. In barangay Cabungan, even before the seminar ended, some fisher-participants were already talking of some management programs like marine protected area or sanctuary.

At the same time, it was in these seminars that resource use conflicts were articulated, like the conflict between owners of fish corrals and spear fishers, between net fishers (kadmak) and hook-line fishers, etc. What is encouraging was the fact that the participants expressed openness to discuss existing use conflicts and find means to resolve them.

The seminars in both barangays ended with a firm decision to hasten the formation of a community organization as a means for united action. It was however, recognized by all the participants that there is a need to have a community-wide campaign on environment protection and recruitment of members to the organization.

*Skills Training of Local Research Partners.* Following the participatory approach of the program, both PRA and Resource Assessment activities were conducted with the full participation of selected people from the fisher sector. The training was done in an informal and popular way, in the sense that people were taught some skills while in the process of implementing the activities. The information sharing method of 'story-telling' was given consideration to facilitate open exchange of experiences and ideas.

Concerning the conduct of PRA, there was a conscious action to have separate focused group discussions for women and men. This was done to determine the particular perception of participants based on sex/gender

### Community Organizing-Community Development

*Core-group Formation.* After the orientation seminar on Coastal Resource Management, the participants in both barangays decided to form ad-hoc working groups to take charge of different tasks identified in preparation for the holding of a general assembly. The main objective of the general assembly was the formation of an organization, through the formulation and approval of a Constitution and By-laws and the election of officers.

Each general assembly ended with a planning session, drawing up a tactical plan which focused on the strengthening of the organization and working out their legal recognition.

*Formation of People's Organization.* The formation of the People's Organization (PO) in two barangays was formally organized. In order to formally establish their organization, the core group acted as a lead group in initiating a General Assembly meeting to approve their Constitution and by-laws and elect their set of officers.

The name of the organization in Barangay Cabungan is *Samahan ng Mangingisda sa Cabungan* (SAMACA) or Organization of Fisherfolk in Cabungan. There were thirty (30) founding members of the SAMACA and at present there are eleven (11) additional members who are willing to join the organization. The members of the organization are mostly fisherfolk, men and women including three (3) barangay officials.

In Carot, the name of their organization is *Samahang Multi-sektoral sa Carot* (SAMUSECA) or the Multi-sectoral Association of Carot. The members of the organization

came from the different sectors such as fisherfolk, farmers, youth and women. There were twenty-seven founding members of the organization.

*Organizational Planning.* In the process of organizing, planning is very essential to identify the priorities, define the level of the organization and have an equal division of labor. The Council of Leaders (COL) of SAMACA formulated their action plan. There are two main thrusts outlined in the plan, one is on the organizational development, management and protection of fishery resources particularly the establishment of a Marine Protected Area (MPA). An orientation on the MPA concept was conducted with 22 participants coming from the organization. Site identification for the MPA area is on going.

In Carot, SAMUSECA scheduled their organizational and CRM planning for the month of August.

## EFFORTS, LESSONS AND INSIGHTS

1. At the start of the program, there were some difficulties encountered due to the absence of a fulltime program staff in the area. The demand for environment education and organizing was relatively high because of the people's concern to do something about their natural resources. This was brought about by the controversy concerning the plan to build a cement plant in nearby Bolinao, which was scuttled because of the militant opposition of community residents. The people of Anda expressed their opposition to such a development project during the time when the government was conducting public hearings. The pollution of the Hundred Islands waters due to uncontrolled fishpen operation also did not escape the Anda people's attention. As such, the local government units, barangays or sectoral groups undertook local initiatives or actions toward resource management and / or environment protection. In

many of these initiatives, the program was unable to closely work with the individuals or groups involved, except to monitor what had been done.

In order to sustain this existing environmental consciousness, the program facilitated short environment education consultations with schools and church organizations. Individual consultations with school and LGU officials and church leaders were maintained.

These efforts were undertaken along with the program's main thrust of assisting the formation of organizations among the primary stakeholders - the fisherfolk - in specific barangays. However, during the campaign period for the May 1998 national election, the program decided to be very careful in holding public activities to avoid being used by campaigning candidates.

During this period, the Resource Center deemed it necessary to defer the level of advocacy work.

2. The importance of PRA in the preparatory phase of CBCRM program implementation was validated because it enables the primary stakeholders to identify problems and issues in resource use and to formulate appropriate solutions to their problems. In the process of doing PRA, the local partners were able to discover the true state of the resource base, thereby generating in them the consciousness and commitment to do something about the environment. In particular, the small fisherfolk show a high level of interest in doing something to protect and preserve their marine resources.

An important insight from this activity is the realization of the community that most of the knowledge about marine resources - its historical and current status and conditions - are deeply embedded in their life. What is crucial is how the program, through the PRA, can provide the dialogical atmosphere for them to share and

synthesize their experiences into a common reference point for collective action.

3. While most of the people whom the program had worked with had shown interest in doing something about their environmental problems, the attitude of dependency toward the government or outside voluntary agencies was still quite strong. In many of the program's consultations with communities, it was always observed that people expected to be given funds for livelihood projects. In the first few months of the program's implementation, people in the community were wondering why we had not been talking about this concern. Aside from this, there were other stereotyped perceptions brought about by agencies and voluntary organizations that stood in the way of a community-based resource management program.

The Resource Center, therefore, strongly expressed its position that our program in the community was primarily focused on helping the people affected by the environment crisis to develop ways of solving their own problems through education, organizing and networking.

On this basis, our seminars and consultations were conducted within the community, making use of existing facilities and resources the community could spare. We opted not to have activities conducted in seminar centers outside the community, as these would entail large expenses for both the program and the participants. Also considering the length of time people would be out of their daily livelihood activities, we adjusted our community activities according to their everyday life conditions.

4. The organizing approach in the two barangays were different from each other, considering the different ways people perceive situations. Their efforts at forming community organizations took different approaches.



In Barangay Carot, where most of the people were not natives of the place but migrants from nearby Ilocano speaking areas, the majority decision was to have a multi-sectoral organization. The main concern was how their community could take over from the municipal government, the management and control of 'fishing zones' and 'special lots' granted annually to winning concessionaires. Through a negotiated arrangement with the municipal government, they hoped to establish regulation and strict enforcement of fishing ordinances that would minimize, if not totally eradicate, over-exploitation of their marine resources. They felt that with the present arrangement, where some of the concessionaires were from outside, there was a tendency to over-exploit the resources within their areas in order to get back the investments put in.



It was through a multi-sectoral organization, supported by the barangay council that the community felt they could strike an arrangement where they could assume effective control in resource allocation without the local government having to lose their revenue sources. However, they had not ruled out the possibility of establishing a protected area while simultaneously working out this arrangement.

With regard to Barangay Cabungan, where most of the residents are natives of the community, their sense of affinity with the environment, more particularly with the marine resources, was closely embedded in their daily struggle for livelihood. As one of the areas where blast fishing was rampant before, the community decided to organize a

group of fisherfolk. The immediate target of the organization was the establishment of a protected area that would possibly encompass coral and sea grass areas, pending completion of the resource assessment of identified sites. It is important to note that organizational membership was composed of fulltime and part time fisherfolk, hence, some of them had other sources of livelihood aside from fishing and farming.

5. With regard to ecosystem-based organizing, the initial deliberation of the Resource Center indicated that this could be implemented in relation to specific resource management options that might be decided upon by the whole group. The possibility of having a specific resource management sub-unit focused on a specific ecosystem within the whole organization was being looked into. At present, the focus of both organizations in their planning activities is on organizational expansion and consolidation, and on resource management. Considering the need to have a deeper community investigation of sites and of gear use conflict, the ecosystem-based approach is undergoing participatory deliberations.



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The three are all founding members of the CBCRM Resource Center based in the college.