

2022 OCEAN HEROES AWARDEES

Department of the Interior and Local Government

1. Department of Interior and Local Government Secretary Eduardo M. Año



Under his leadership, the DILG issued several policies that accords prioritization of sustainable fisheries management and protection of marine habitats through strong implementation of the mandates of the local government units (LGUs) such as the Fisheries Compliance Audit and its validation protocol roll-out in Manila Bay initially and the recent Memorandum Circular (MC) 2022-018, a landmark policy that aims to ensure that environmental safeguards provided by various laws are strictly complied with by the LGUs for projects that impact our natural life-support systems and the livelihoods of communities under the Philippine Environmental Impact Statement System.

2. Undersecretary for Local Government Marlo L. Iringan



Undersecretary Iringan exudes active support and leadership in highlighting best practices and local government accountability and compliance with their mandates under the Local

Government Code with respect to dump-and-fill, seabed quarrying and other coastal development projects.

3. Undersecretary for Peace and Order Bernardo C. Florece, Jr.



Through his guidance, the DILG pushed for local governments' enforcement against illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing inside municipal waters by calling their attention based on satellite boat detection data, active representation of local governments in fisheries management area management boards, among others.

4. Atty. Odilon L. Pasaraba, Director of Bureau of Local Government Supervision and Assistant Secretary for Special Concerns – Local Government Sector



Director Pasaraba is a steadfast and dynamic partner of civil society sector in ensuring that local governments live up to their power and authority with the DILG providing consistent supervision and support to local governments including the latter's compliance with various environmental laws, such as RA 9003 (Ecological Solid Waste Management Act), RA 10654 (Amended Fisheries Code), and DILG policy issuances such as the pioneering Fisheries Compliance Audit of local government units in the country.

5. Vivian P. Suansing, Director – Planning Services



Director Suansing has consistently ensured the Department's programs in ensuring compliance and accountability of local governments of their legal mandates under existing environmental laws.

6. Adrian Paul P. Santos, Project Development Officer III – Manila Bay CRPP Project Management Office

For his dedication in ensuring that actions are done and accountability is secured among the local government units and partners, in effectively implementing the fisheries and environmental laws.

7. Carlo Mari Crisregionald C. Tan, Project Manager I – Office of the Director, Bureau of Local Government Supervision and Assistant Secretary for Special Concerns – Local Government Sector



An inspiring young public servant, Mr. Tan is the Project Manager I – Office of the Director, Bureau of Local Government Supervision, and Assistant Secretary for Special Concerns – Local Government Sector. He has been very instrumental in ensuring the local implementation of the policies so that they can be effectively felt by the constituents, especially the fisherfolk.

8. **Aleya Carmela E. Arca, Asst. Program Manager, Program Management Office, Manila Bay Clean-up, Rehabilitation and Preservation Program, Bureau of Local Government Supervision**



A dedicated young public servant who's a stalwart in securing the effective implementation of the environment and fisheries policies in the country and exacting accountability from local governments through the Fisheries Compliance Audit. She dedicates her time and presence to every opportunity to be with partners and fisherfolk.

9. **Atty. Anjelo D. Saturnino, Project Development Officer IV/Legal Officer, Program Management Office- Manila Bay Clean-up, Rehabilitation and Preservation Program, Bureau of Local Government Supervision**



For his strong advocacy for full implementation of laws and accountability of local government units serves as an inspiration to all young people who aspire to become public servants.

Department of Agriculture and Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources

10. Secretary William D. Dar



He signed the National Sardines Management Plan last May 15, 2020 and called for its implementation in the 12 Fisheries Management Areas. He likewise issued orders to affirm and bolster the implementation of the Vessel Monitoring Measures in the country. Amidst the challenges of crisis due to the COVID-19 pandemic, he maintained his exemplary guidance in protecting the artisanal fisherfolk who are frontliners during the pandemic.

11. Undersecretary Cheryl Marie Natividad-Caballero, Undersecretary for Agri-Industrialization and Fisheries, Department of Agriculture



For her service and dedication to ensuring that there is science-based and participatory management of Fisheries in the Philippines. As the Undersecretary for Agri-Industrialization and Fisheries, she made sure that consultations were conducted and stakeholder voices were heard.

12. Drusila Esther E. Bayate, Assistant Director for Technical Services, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources



For her active role in the implementation of Fisheries Laws in the Philippines and ensuring that policies are strictly enforced.

13. Sandra Victoria R. Arcamo, Chief – Fisheries Resources Management Division



For her steadfast dedication to protecting coastal and fisheries habitats against illegal dump-and-fill, seabed quarrying, and illegal fishing in municipal waters.

14. Dr. Juan D. Albaladejo, Regional Director of BFAR Region 8/ FMA 8 Chairperson



Dr. Albaladejo is a trailblazer in the Fisheries Management Area and instrumental in achieving milestones in upholding a science-based, transparent, accountable, and sustainable fisheries management in the country. He is a role model and an inspiring

leader who motivates stakeholders to collaborate and coordinate for the wellbeing of our fisheries and our artisanal fisherfolk.

15. Ronnie P. Esmeña, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Region 8 / FMA 8 Focal Person



Together with his team in BFAR 8, Mr. Esmeña set the pace and elevated the standards of young leadership in the government by ensuring that policies are implemented.

16. Christine N. Gresola, Training Specialist, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Region 8

For her tireless efforts amidst the challenges in ensuring that the fisheries and environment policies are implemented and in championing the welfare and rights of fisherfolk in the region.

17. Edmar Kristopher P. Petallaña, Officer-in-charge, Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Section, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Region 8



Mr. Petallaña was a key official in the development of the first-ever Fisheries Management Area Enforcement Plan in Fisheries Management Area 8. As a member of the Technical

Working Group for Enforcement of FMA 8, he led the various meetings, consultations and workshops to ensure the crafting for the FMA8 Enforcement OPLAN.

18. Nelson B. Bien, Regional Director, BFAR 5 / FMA 7 Chairperson



Through his leadership, Fisheries Management Area 7 created ripples of impact in the management of fisheries, especially in sardine fishery. Area 7 was the first to adopt the National Sardines Management Plan in the country and work on its implementation.

19. Sammy A. Malvas, Regional Director, BFAR 4A / FMA 12 Chairperson / Assistant Director for Operations



Under the leadership of Regional Director Malvas, Fisheries Management Area 12 was able to advance and uphold science-based management of fisheries in the country.

20. Sonia Olayvar-Elloso, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Region 4A / FMA 12 Focal Person

For her dedication and service to upholding the participatory fisheries management area in FMA 12.

21. Edmundo M. Amican III, Coastal Resource Manager, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Region 4A



For his tireless efforts to uphold the sustainable fisheries management in Area 12 and ensure that policies are effectively implemented.

22. Ariel U. Pioquinto, Chief, Fisheries Management and Regulatory and Enforcement Division, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Region 5



For ensuring the full and effective implementation of the fisheries laws in his region and Fisheries Management Area 7. It was under his leadership that law enforcement was put in place and violations were seriously dealt with.

23. Nonie P. Enolva, Chief, Marine Fisheries Resource Management Section, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Region 5



She was instrumental in the implementation and operationalization of the Fisheries Management Area 7.

24. Dr. Noemi SB Lanzuela, Chief Regional Fisheries Training and Fisherfolk Coordination Division, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Region 5



Her proactive support and dedication made it possible for the National Sardines Management Plan to be adopted in Fisheries Management Area 7.

25. Dr. Emma L. Ballard, OIC, Fisheries Resource Management Section, OIC, Fisheries Inspection and Quarantine Service, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Region 2 (FMA 1)



Dr. Ballard has been a strong partner in the implementation of the Fisheries Management Area Scorecard since it was rolled out.

26. Atty. Arsenio S. Bañares, Chief, Fisheries Management Regulatory and Enforcement Division, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Region 2 (FMA 1)



For his tireless work to protect our ocean and ensuring that fisheries management area is implemented effectively.

27. Dr. Angel B. Encarnacion, DMSc, CESE, Regional Director, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Region 2 / Chairperson, Fisheries Management Area 1



One of the most inspiring young public servants who raises the bar high in terms of service and steadfast dedication, Dr. Encarnacion has been proactively supporting partners and ensuring science-based Fisheries Management Area 1.

Philippine National Police – Maritime Group

28. PCOL Fernando L. Cunanan, Jr., Chief, PNP Regional Maritime Unit 3



For enforcing environmental and fishery laws, despite the harassment suit filed by violators of the law. An active member of Kargatan Patrol platform for reporting illegal fishing, he responds to reports of illegal fishing and has successfully apprehended violators. PCOL Cunanan recently won the administrative case filed against him due to the performance of his duty.

29. PCOL (Atty.) Oliver S. Tanseco. Chief, PNP Regional Maritime Unit NCR



For his work in ensuring that environmental and fisheries laws are effectively implemented. **PCOL (Atty.) Tanseco unselfishly shared his expertise in numerous fisheries law enforcement training programs jointly conducted by OCEANA and other agencies.**

30. CG Admiral Artemio M. Abu, Commandant, Philippine Coast Guard



For his commitment to serving the country and the Filipino people, particularly for his strong support to protecting our ocean.

Academe

31. Dr. Wilfredo L. Campos, University of the Philippine Visayas Foundation



For his expertise, selfless service, and dedication to upholding science-based policies and for being a proactive voice in advocating for the urgent protection of our ocean.

32. Dr. Elviro A. Cinco



For sharing his expertise and rich experience, and his tireless efforts to ensure that science is prioritized and supports various policies for the welfare of our ocean and the Filipino fisherfolk.

33. Dr. Augie E. Fuentes, College President, Davao del Sur State College



An inspiring woman leader and the first President in the Davao del Sur State College, President Augie has been a great partner and ally in molding the young Filipinos to value science and research, reach out to communities, and be good stewards of the earth. Her steadfast dedication has been an inspiration to her colleagues and students.

34. Dr. Della Grace G. Bacaltos, Davao del Sur State College



A great ally valued for her dedication, hard work, and openness to reach out to various stakeholders in the country and abroad, to share the richness of the Philippines in terms of science, research, skills, and resources.

35. Dr. Yasmin Primavera-Tirol



For her valuable support in advocating for science-based, participatory, and effective policies in the country. She has tirelessly inspired fisherfolk and fishery managers to be the voice for the most vulnerable sectors in society.

Local government

36. Councilor Alvin M. Dizon



A committed, hardworking, and progressive public servant, Councilor Dizon has authored several local legislations in Cebu City promoting the rights of the marginalized and protection of the environment. He is one of the co-petitioners of Oceana's landmark plastic lawsuit against the National Solid Waste Management Commission demanding accountability for the poor implementation of RA 9003 (Ecological Solid Waste Management Act).