



# Ebiil Society

Executive Director and CO-Founder  
**Ann Singeo**

## Main Activities

- Providing summer camps for children
- Building a marine hatchery for the Marine Science Education Program
- Developing a forestry program and creating an agricultural demonstration area for children
- Collecting environmental data
- Conducting environmental research



## Background of Establishment

In 2005, they advocated and established a marine conservation area for fishery and sustainability in Ebiil, a coral reef area located in the northern part of Babeldaob.

## Purpose

To provide education for environmental protection and to teach natural resource management through indigenous knowledge.

“My Land, my Water, my Home... May I be as good and beautiful to you as you have been to me...”  
Camp Ebiil Theme

## Member's Voice Ms. Ann Singeo



A group of us realized that we all shared the same passion for conservation, its education and the revival of indigenous knowledge. We also realized that despite being a spectacular coral reef and an aggregation spawning ground for many corals, the Ebiil channel was unknown by the people in the community. We recognized how it would be a challenge to ask people to protect the reef when they knew nothing about it. We wanted to do more than make posters to promote and to spread awareness, so we decided to design our first Ebiil’s Summer Camp in 2015 with 30 kids. At the end of the camp, the kids shared what they learned with the adults, which overwhelmed the adults with a sense of gratefulness and rewards for being able to witness the transfer of knowledge to their next generation.

Ebiil Society was the very first NGO in Palau to receive the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Projects (GGP) from the Japanese Government in 2016. In 2017, we successfully built our main building for our organization, and worked to provide a world-training program for the environment. Our organization has been acknowledged internationally, and we look forward to a stronger collaboration with the Government of Palau, exchanging environmental data and assistance to support one another. We are already in progress with the government to support us in building a marine hatchery in this area. This will be a part of our marine science education program, and also develop a forestry program and create an agricultural demonstration area for children so they will be able to learn about farming and the Palau forest in the near future.

The reason we have evolved and grown as an organization is because of all the partnerships we have from outside and inside Palau, especially through community support. We have a long list of trainers, scientists, and people who can pass down indigenous knowledge to keep our classrooms relevant and evolving with changes. We have initiated our research class with Stanford University, where we partner to teach social science research including Palauan ethics and protocols. We teach the kids to be independent in the classrooms, creating kids who can work at ground level and can communicate with the different communities with care and sensitivity. It has become a part of the school curriculum for all 4th and 5th graders in Palau to participate in Ebiil classes.

Working with kids keeps us young! At one of the summer camp trips to Ngardmau waterfall, the students found a giant betel nut-like leaf on the ground and fell in love with this leaf. The student insisted on taking it home with him, so he took this giant leaf on the bus with him. It is such a rewarding feeling seeing the children finding their meaning in the things we teach.

The community is the foundation of this organization, and it has been their aspiration to see a more local concept of education, that embraces who we are and what this land and ocean have to offer. We have always evolved together with the community, and we believe that this organization’s growth is the growth of this community.

## Contact Information

 [info@ebilsociety.org](mailto:info@ebilsociety.org)

 (680)-855-2767

 P.O.Box 813 Koror, Palau 96940

 [www.ebilsociety.org](http://www.ebilsociety.org)

 [ebil.society](https://www.instagram.com/ebil.society)