

# NEWSLETTER



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## PIEC holds 1st Plenary Meeting

The Provincial Governor of Bohol, Atty. Edgar M. Chatto led the Panglao Island Executive Committee (PIEC) to its First Plenary Meeting that formally named and tasked its composition levels from the Board of Directors to the Working Groups.

Created by a provincial law, the PIEC is a coordinating and advisory body for harmonious local environmental protection and conservation ordinances and policies.

On February 6, 2014 the 1st Plenary Meeting of PIEC was held in Café Dolores, Bohol Tropics Hotel in Tagbilaran City and was presided by its Chairperson, Hon. Edgardo M. Chatto, the Provincial Governor of Bohol. In attendance were the Municipal Mayors of Panglao Island, Mayor Leonila P. Montero of Panglao and Mayor Marietta T. Sumaylo of Dauis, who were appointed as Vice-Chairpersons of PIEC. They came with their local officials and members of the Municipal Counterparts including members of the Sangguniang Bayan.



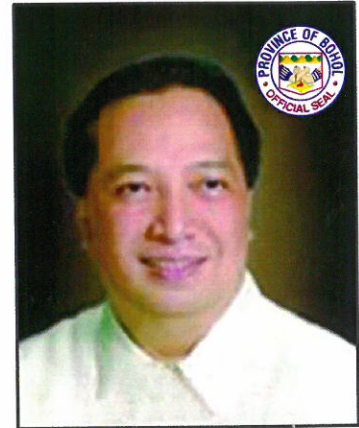
From the private business sectors, representatives of hotels, dive shops, fisherfolks, tour associations and local community associations were present to attend the meeting.

Also in attendance were the JICA Team led by Mr. Yoshifumi Omura (Director for SEA Division), together with Ms. Satomi Sakaguchi, (Country Officer, SEA Division), Ms. Leah Penarroyo (Senior Prog. Officer) and Mr. Shinichiro Tanimoto (Team Leader, JICA Experts Team). Representatives from the supporting organizations and the Scientific Council also attended the meeting. The agenda of the 1st Plenary Meeting centered on the explanation of the purpose, functions and structure of PIEC and the selection and approval of the Working Group Members, Directors of Working Groups and the Board of Directors. The next steps to be undertaken by PIEC were also discussed which includes activities for the Tourism and Conservation Working Group, activities for the Waste Management Working Group and resolutions by the municipalities of Dauis and Panglao in support of Provincial Ordinance No. 2014-002 (Establishing the PIEC for SEPP).

For other concerns that were raised but not included in the meeting's agenda, the Governor instructed the PPDO, as Secretariat, to take note of these concerns and prioritize them in the discussions for the next PIEC meeting which will be scheduled by the Secretariat among the members of the Board.

## COMMENCEMENT OF THE PANGLAO ISLAND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (PIEC)

*It gives me great pleasure, as Governor of the Province of Bohol, to declare that the Panglao Island Executive Committee (PIEC), in support of the New Bohol Airport Construction and Sustainable Environment Protection Project (NBACSEPP), has been created through a provincial ordinance passed by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan on 24 January 2014. This ordinance supports the vision of Bohol as a prime eco-cultural tourism destination with the primary goal of sound environmental management, as well as our HEAT-IT Bohol Development Agenda (**H**ealth and Sanitation, **E**ducation and Skills Development, **A**griculture and Food Security, **T**ourism and Livelihood, and **I**nformation **T**echnology). It also supports the environmental policy of the Province to conserve our natural biodiversity, notably in the island of Panglao, as the location of the New Bohol Airport and the primary beneficiary of the NBACSEPP.*



*The PIEC Ordinance, a landmark local legislation, will be a mechanism for harmonizing local ordinances relating to environmental protection and conservation in the LGUs in harmony also with national laws.*

*It is emphasized that the PIEC will not interfere with or encroach on the legislative powers of the respective Sangguniang Bayans of the Municipalities of Dausi and Panglao. It will serve as a coordinating and advisory body for environmental protection and conservation. Through the working groups, stakeholders can identify the challenges and opportunities regarding the environmental impact of tourism activities in the island. The committee will serve as a mechanism for reaching consensus among the LGUs concerned, and give them sound, scientifically-based advice for the implementation of their respective ordinances or passage of applicable resolutions.*

*It is also expected that the PIEC will coordinate with existing multi-sectoral coordinating bodies operating in the Province and in Panglao Island, such as the Provincial Tourism Council (PTC), Coastal Restoration of Amazing Balicasag (CRAB), Panglao Association of Scuba Schools (PASS), and other groups. Other stakeholders will also be consulted, such as the fisherfolk associations, tourism players, and non-government organizations, to ensure a participatory process and grassroots-based local legislation, in accordance with our principle of shared leadership.*

*I look forward to the regular operation of the PIEC, as a mechanism of coordination with and assistance to both the Municipalities of Dausi and Panglao, and ultimately the rest of the province, in the area of eco-cultural tourism and environmental protection. With the support of all the sectors of the society, Bohol will succeed in making that BIG LEAP!*

Signed:

**ATTY. EDGAR M. CHATTO**

Governor

**Message from the Municipal Mayor of Panglao  
(Honorable Leonila P. Montero)**

*The long wait is over. The realization of a long-cherished dream of Boholanos – THE NEW BOHOL AIRPORT, which we all know took two decades in the making, is already very close at hand and now ready to take off. The Municipality of Panglao, being the host town, would like to be part of this journey. The New Bohol Airport is an additional edifice in the ever-changing infrastructure landscape of Panglao. The presence of the New Bohol Airport will boost the local economy and bring increase tourist traffic which impacts on our tourism industry.*



*However, it can not be avoided that any development of this magnitude has effects on the environment. The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Provincial Government of Bohol, under the leadership of Governor Edgar M. Chatto, have very well anticipated these potential environment concerns. I am glad that the Provincial Government and the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Bohol with Vice-Gov. Conception O. Lim as presiding officer passed an ordinance last January 24, 2014 creating the Panglao Island Executive Committee (PIEC) to strike a happy balance between development and environment.*

*Together with the Sangguniang Bayan of Panglao, headed by Vice Mayor Pedro Fuertes, I wholeheartedly will participate as an active member of the PIEC, as well as pledge our full support and commitment to the environmental goals and objectives pursued by Sustainable Environmental Protection Project of the New Bohol Airport.*

Signed: 

**Message from the Municipal Mayor of Dausi  
(Honorable Marietta T. Sumaylo)**

*In behalf of the Municipality of Dausi, I would like to express my profound gratitude to the Provincial Government through Hon. Edgar M. Chatto and JICA for having embarked this project on sustainable environment particularly for Panglao Island. This project is very indispensable in anticipation of the possible impacts on degradation of our environment brought about by the influx of tourists. Upon knowing our role as embodied in the Panglao Island Executive Committee Ordinance, we express our full support and take our responsibility as provided within our means. This project is laudable one and without the coordination of all concerned offices and agencies, we could not push through our target to well manage our carrying capacity and waste which need to be attended to, for a well sustained tourism industry. In the coming meetings of the PIEC, I'm looking forward to more fruitful undertakings and hopeful that our municipality will be able to share and implement what has to be done*



*I wish to have a close coordination with our legislative department under the leadership of our active Vice Mayor Lulu Bongalos and all the Sangguniang Bayan members as well as the leaders from the Municipality of Panglao headed by Mayor Montero on any project under SEPP that need mutual decision making. And we really need the technical and financial assistance from the Provincial Government and JICA in the realization of the proposed projects and activities on SEPP. At this end, may I reiterate, thank you very much, God bless and more power to everyone!*

Signed: 

## **Outline of the Panglao Island Executive Committee (PIEC)**

### **Background**

The expected development of tourism sites after the completion of the New Bohol Airport construction will result to a large number of economic benefits but will also result to several negative environmental impacts. Consequently, there will be a conflict of interests between the tourism development sector and proponents of natural environment preservation.

In response to this, the Sustainable Environment Protection Project (hereinafter referred to as "SEPP") for Panglao has established the Panglao Island Executive Committee (hereinafter referred to as "PIEC") by virtue of Provincial Ordinance No. 2014-002 entitled "Establishing the Panglao Island Executive Committee for Sustainable Environment Protection Project (PIEC for SEPP)". The Ordinance which was sponsored by Hon. Abeleon R. Damalerio, Chairperson of the Committee on Environment (Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Bohol), was approved by the Board on January 24, 2014 as signed by Atty. Dioniso D. Balite, Senior Board Member / Presiding Officer, then later approved and signed on February 3, 2014 by Hon. Edgardo M. Chatto, Provincial Governor.

### **Purpose of the PIEC**

The PIEC shall serve as a coordinating and advisory body for Environmental Protection and Conservation, and as an instrument for reaching consensus among the LGUs concerned, particularly the Provincial Government of Bohol and the municipalities of Daus and Panglao.

### **Function of the PIEC**

As its primary function, the PIEC is tasked to involve all stakeholders (public and private) in consensus building and decision making and to support the implementation of plans in accordance to its purpose.

### **Composition and Structure of the PIEC**

#### **1. Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors is organized for the purposes of approving future visions, policies, and plans, and also for approving proposals (projects & activities and ordinances & regulations) prepared through the discussion in the Working Groups.

## 2. The Working Groups

The Working Groups (hereinafter referred to as “WGs”) are divided into two groups, namely;

- a. **Tourism and Conservation Working Group (Secretariat: BEMO or BTO)**
- b. **Waste Management Working Group (Secretariat: PHO)**

The Working Groups are organized for the purposes of discussing visions, policies, and plans, discussing and reaching consensus of proposals submitted by LGUs, and reviewing the result of monitoring surveys and the progress and outcome of field activities.

The WGs are composed of representatives from both public and private sectors. The positions for Director, who also sits as a Member of the Board, have to be replaced on rotation basis each year to maintain check and balance.

## 3. The Scientific Council

The Scientific Council shall provide technical and scientific advice and recommend appropriate measures for environmental protection and conservation to the PIEC. It is composed of competent scientists, researchers and practitioners from various fields, identified on the basis of their respective track records, including scientific publications and experience in environment protection and conservation, duly accredited or recognized by the Philippine Government. They will participate on the discussions of the draft plans or draft proposals (such as ordinances) prepared through the discussion in the WGs and will provide scientific comments to the PIEC and will support to reach consensus with scientific evidences.

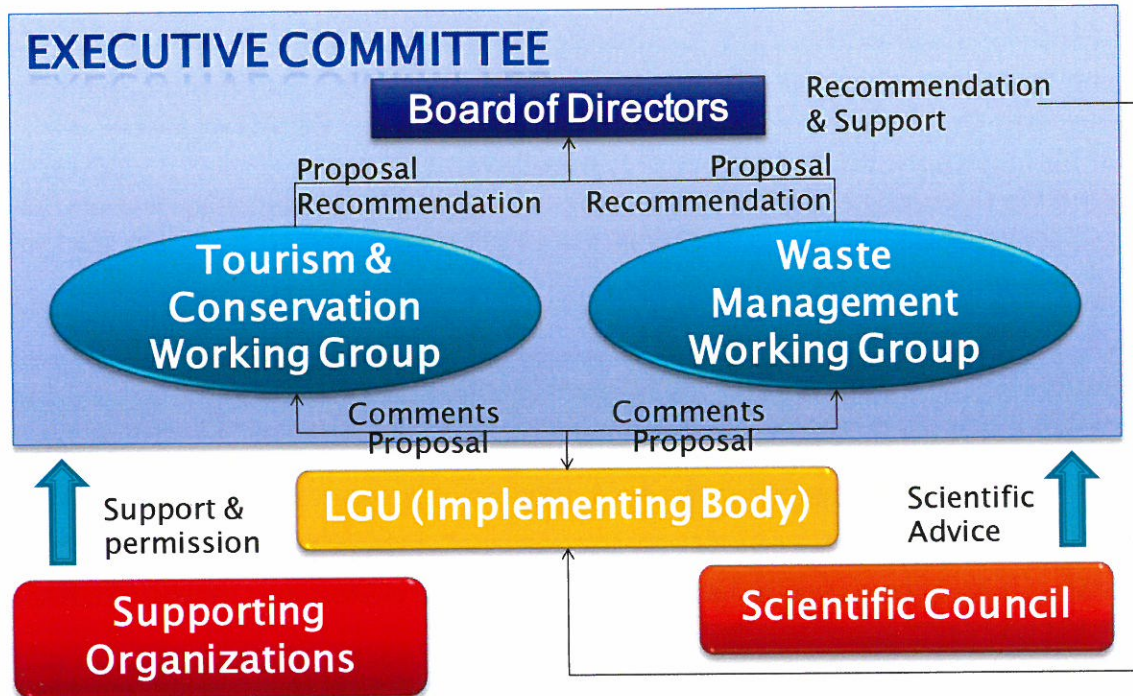
## 4. The Support Organizations

The Support Organizations shall provide additional technical assistance, advice, information/data, and, permissions. It is composed of National Agencies such as DENR, DOT, DOTC, NEDA, TIEZA, Philippine Navy, Philippine Coast Guard, etc, with mandates relating to environmental protection and conservation.

## Meetings and Legislations

The Board Meetings are held when the WGs have reached consensus on the proposals (projects & activities and ordinances & regulations) originally prepared by the LGUs, upon review of the Scientific Council. The proposals are discussed in the Board Meetings and approvals are made as necessary.

Through the discussions in the Board Meetings, if the proposals are approved with or without modifications, the Board Members will request for the implementation of the proposals by further appropriate measures.



## The PIEC Members List

The members of PIEC are selected during Annual Plenary Meeting and these members will be officially appointed with Resolution of Approval from PIEC. In the 1st Plenary Meeting on February 6, 2014 the members selected for the first year are as follows:

### **The Board of Directors**

**Chairperson – Atty. Edgar M. Chatto (Governor, Province of Bohol)**

**Vice Chairperson – Hon. Leonila P. Montero (Mayor of Panglao)**

**Vice Chairperson – Hon. Marietta T. Sumaylo (Mayor of Daus)**

**Directors of WG:**

**1. Ms. Josephine R. Cabarrus (Head, BTO)**

**2. Mr. Samuel V. Racho (OIC, BEMO)**

**3. Mr. Hogel Horn (Pres., Phil. Fun Divers)**

**4. Mr. Dominic Butalid (Gen. Manager, Bohol Bee Farm)**

**Board Member - Atty. Lucas Nunag (Chairperson, PTC)**

**Secretariat - Atty. John Titus Vistal (PPDC)**

**The Tourism and Nature Conservation WG**

1. Mr. Hogel Horn (Pres., Phil Fun Divers) Director of WG
2. Ms. Josephine Cabarrus (Head, BTO) Director of WG
3. Atty. Lucas Nunag (Chairperson, PTC)
4. Mr. Darwin Menorias (MTO, Panglao)
5. Mr. Christopher Nistal (MTO, Dausi)
6. Mr. Dominic Butalid (Gen. Manager, Bohol Bee Farm)
7. Ms. Karen Wesemael (Linaw Beach Resort & Resto)
8. Ms. Laarni Lehtonen (Sierra Madre Divers)
9. Mr. Danilo Ruleda (Panglao Isl. Sea Tour Assoc.)
10. Mr. Victoriano Rondez (Pres., MFARMC)
11. Mr. Julito Arafol Sr. (Chairman, MFARMC)
12. Ms. Nunila Pinat (Exec. Dir., PADAYON-BMTCI)  
Ms. Ma. Socorro Trinidad (BEMO, Secretariat)

**The Waste Management WG**

1. Mr. Dominic Butalid (Gen. Manager, Bohol Bee Farm)  
Director of WG
2. Mr. Samuel V. Racho (OIC, BEMO) Director of WG
3. Ms. Jovencia S. Asilo (MPDC, Panglao)
4. Ms. Ma. Mercedes Salinas (MPDC, Dausi)
5. Atty. Lucas Nunag (Chairperson, PTC)
6. Ms. Karen Wesemael (Linaw Beach Resort & Resto)
7. Ms. Laarni Lehtonen (Sierra Madre Divers)
8. Mr. David Baillie (Pres., Alona Beach Comm. Assoc.)
9. Ms. Nunila Pinat (Exec. Dir., PADAYON-BMTCI)  
Ms. Esperanza Flores (PHO, Secretariat)

**The Scientific Council**

1. Dr. Angel C. Alcala - Chairperson (Dir., SUAKCREM)
2. Dr. Filipina B. Soto (Univ. of San Carlos, Cebu)
3. Dr. Tertuliano Tuyugon (Bohol Island State Univ.)
4. Dr. Elpidio Magante (Bohol Island State Univ.)
5. Fr. Francisco Estepa (Holy Name University)
6. Dr. Caesar A. Saloma (UP Advisory Council)
7. Dr. Aileen P. Maypa (Exec. Dir., CCEF)
8. Ms. Nunila Pinat (Exec. Dir., PADAYON-BMTCI)
9. Mr. Marcial Tanggaan (Dir., DOST-Bohol)
10. TBN - (for Geomorphology)
11. TBN - (for Landscape)

**The Support Organizations**

1. Mr. Edmondo P. Arregadas (CMMD, DENR-Reg.7)
2. Ms. Rowena Lu Y. Montecillo (RD, DOT-Reg.7)
3. Mr. Cresencio Pahamutang (Head, BFAR-Bohol)
4. Dir. Efren Carreon (OIC-RD, NEDA-Reg.7)
5. c/o Mr. Mark Lapid (COO, TIEZA)
6. c/o Vice Adm. Jose Luis Alano (Chief, Phil. Navy)
7. c/o Vice Adm. Rodolfo D. Isorena (Comm., PCG)
8. c/o Sec. Joseph Emilio Abaya (Sec., DOTC)

**NEXT ACTIVITIES OF PIEC (WGs)****Tourism and Conservation WG**

1. **Regular Monitoring**
  - preparation of Manual
  - conduct monitoring before and after the pilot activities
2. **Usage Control on Carrying Capacity**
  - monitoring
  - set initial figure of carrying capacity
  - prepare usage control protocol
  - implement usage control
  - monitoring
  - revision of the figure of carrying capacity and usage control protocol
3. **Promotion of Tourism Attractions Outside of Panglao Island**
  - promotion of One Town - One Attraction activity
  - development of tourism attraction in selected towns as a pilot activity
  - improvement of information access

**Waste Management WG**

1. **Revision of Relevant Laws and Regulations**
2. **Improvement of Concerned Office/s of LGUs**
  - scope of work to be undertaken by LGU in planning, construction and O&M stages to meet the requirements in the relevant laws and regulations
  - minimum required staff for the work in the specific office (which is considered in the draft municipal ordinances)
3. **Technical Improvement for On-site STFs and Study on Potential Financing for Septage Treatment and Disposal**
  - Pilot study is on-going in the field to improve effluent quality of on-site STFs.
  - Preparation of preliminary design of septage treatment facilities
  - Conduct of Workshop on the Plan of Septage Treatment and Disposal for Panglao and Dausi municipalities

## OTHER SEPP ACTIVITIES

### (1) Alona Beach/ Balicasag Island Survey

### (2) Bohol Tourist Exit Survey

The surveys were conducted last year - the first one on September 15 and 16 while the second on November 17 and 21 – by the SEPP members mainly from the Bohol Tourism Office. The purpose of the survey is to conduct interviews and to count the number of incoming visitors to Alona Beach and outgoing tourists in Bohol using Survey Questionnaires including counting of boats and snorkelers going to Balicasag Island. This is to obtain statistical data for more detailed information of SEPP.



### Sector-Wide Work Shops

SEPP in collaboration with Consultants from Coastal Conservation & Education Foundation conducted the Sector Wide Workshops on September 18 to 26, 2013 to give information to different sectors on the overall goals and purpose of SEPP and the necessity for the establishment of the Panglao Island Executive Committee (PIEC). It also served as venue for selecting the nominees for members of the Working Groups under PIEC.



### On-site Sewage Treatment Facility Work Shops

On October 3-9, 2013 the SEPP Waste Management Group conducted workshops in Daus and Panglao Municipalities to hold discussion on the first draft of revisions for the Bohol Sanitation Code and Municipal Ordinances. The participants included the counterparts from the Province (PHO, BEMO, PGSO) and from the Municipalities (MPDC, ME, MHO, SP). The discussions also included the explanation on site selection for the construction of the pilot septic tanks.



### Preparation of Implementation Plan of Adaptive Management

The SEPP Tourism and Nature Conservation Group started preparation of implementation plan of adaptive management in January 2014. The management system is by usage control of tourism resources based on carrying capacity. SEPP will submit the implementation plan to PIEC, and implement the activities in compliance to the plan as a pilot trial of adaptive management in this year.



### Start of Construction Works

Notice to Proceed was issued to the Contractor on January 13, 2014 to commence the Construction Works for the pilot septic tanks under the supervision and in compliance with the design of the JICA Experts Team, and in accordance with the Contract dated December 2, 2013. The five (5) pilot septic tanks will be constructed in 3 households (one each in Barangay Catarman, in Danao and in Barangay Mayacabac) and 2 beach resorts (one each in Linaw Beach Resort and in Kalipayan Beach Resort).



### Field Observation Trips on Septage Treatment Plants and Composting Facilities

For the preparation of preliminary design of Septage Treatment Facilities, the SEPP and counterparts from PHO, BEMO and MPDCs from the two municipalities of Panglao has conducted field observation trips on existing septage treatment plants and composting facilities from January 27-31, 2014 in Luzon and February 3-5, 2014 in Negros Oriental. The purpose is to collect information on design of STF, O&M practices, relevant ordinances and organizational set-up.



### JICA Director Meeting with the Governor

Mr. Yoshifumi Omura (JICA Director for SEA Division) and his Team had a brief meeting with the Governor on February 6, 2014. Issues on progress of work for the New Bohol Airport, rehabilitation of damaged bridges, the creation of a provincial water supply and treatment facility and expansion of Project TOR were discussed during the meeting. Also included in the discussion is the development of eco-tourism by discovering tourism sites in each town.



### 1<sup>st</sup> Regular Monitoring of Coral Reef

Regular monitoring is very important in implementing adaptive management. The SEPP members (mainly coming from the MPA technical working group) and PADAYON with DENR-7 has conducted joint coral reef monitoring from February 25 to 27. Data obtained was analyzed and stored in BEMO. The monitoring result is shared among Working Groups and Scientific Council of PIEC. The SEPP will prepare a manual for implementation of regular monitoring.

