




DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
KAGAWARAN NG KAPALIGIRAN AT LIKAS NA YAMAN



**NOTICE OF MEETING**

- FOR/TO:**
- The Undersecretaries**  
Field Operations Luzon, Visayas and Environment and Supervising Undersecretary for Mines and Geosciences Bureau-Luzon and Visayas, Environmental Management Bureau-Luzon and Visayas
  
  - Field Operations Mindanao and Supervising Undersecretary for Mines and Geosciences Bureau-Mindanao, Environmental Management Bureau-Mindanao
  
  - The Assistant Secretaries**  
Biodiversity and Director, BMB in concurrent capacity  
Policy, Planning, International Affairs, and Climate Change
  
  - The Directors**  
Policy and Planning Service  
Foreign-Assisted and Special Projects Service
  
  - The Assistant Director**  
Biodiversity Management Bureau
  
  - The Chief and/or Technical Staff**  
BMB Concerned Division/s  
FASPS Project Preparation Division  
PPS Policy Studies Division  
PPS Planning and Programming Division
- FROM:** **The Undersecretary**  
Policy, Planning, and International Affairs
- RESOURCE PERSON:** **The Executive Director**  
ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity
- DATE/TIME:** **08 November 2024 (Friday) | 2 PM**
- VENUE:** **2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, OUPPIA Conference Room, DENR, Visayas Ave., QC**
- AGENDA:** **Effectively Managing Networks of Marine Protected Areas in Large Marine Ecosystems in the ASEAN Region (ASEAN ENMAPS)**

  
ATTY. JONAS R. LEONES, CESO I

MEMO NO. 2024- 987

## BRIEFING NOTE

Brief Information	
<b>Event:</b>	ASEAN ENMAPS Meeting
<b>Date/Time/Venue:</b>	October 24, 2024   930 AM 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, OUPPA Conference Room
<b>Meeting Attendees:</b>	<p><b>The Undersecretary</b> Field Operations Luzon, Visayas and Environment and Supervising Undersecretary for Mines and Geosciences Bureau-Luzon and Visayas, Environmental Management Bureau-Luzon and Visayas</p> <p>Field Operations Mindanao and Supervising Undersecretary for Mines and Geosciences Bureau-Mindanao, Environmental Management Bureau-Mindanao</p> <p><b>The Assistant Secretary</b> Policy, Planning, International Affairs, and Climate Change</p> <p><b>The Director</b> Policy and Planning Service Foreign Assisted and Special Projects Service</p> <p><b>The Assistant Director</b> Biodiversity Management Bureau</p> <p><b>The Chief and/or Technical Staff</b> FASPS Project Preparation Division PPS Policy Studies Division PPS Planning and Programming Division</p> <p><b>The Executive Director</b> ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity</p>
<b>Objectives of the Meeting</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effectively Managing Networks of Marine Protected Areas in Large Marine Ecosystems in the ASEAN Region (ASEAN ENMAPS)</li> </ol>
<b>Background / Overview</b>	<p>The ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB), together with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) developed a regional proposal under the 7<sup>th</sup> Global Environment Facility (GEF-7), entitled <i>Effectively Managing an Ecological Networks of Marine Protected Areas in the Large Marine Ecosystems in the ASEAN Region (ASEAN ENMAPS)</i>. The ACB is the GEF Executing Agency or Implementing Partner, while UNDP serves as the Implementing Agency for the Project. ASEAN ENMAPS will be implemented for 60 months with a total GEF investment of USD 12,548,861 and co-financing of USD 57,907,646.</p> <p>The ASEAN ENMAPS covers two GEF Focal Areas which are Biodiversity and International Waters. Three ASEAN Member States (AMS) endorsed the project and committed to supporting both the Biodiversity and International Waters Focal Areas with financing allocation for the Biodiversity under the System of Transparent Allocation of Resources of each country, as follows:</p>

	<p>Indonesia (USD 2,000,000), the Philippines (USD 3,500,000), and Thailand (USD 993,378).</p> <p>The ASEAN ENMAPS aims to improve governance and management of ecological networks of marine protected areas (MPAs), their components, and marine biodiversity conservation corridors in the Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs) of the Gulf of Thailand, South China Sea, Sulu-Celebes Seas, Indonesian Sea, and Bay of Bengal, to increase coverage of MPAs, better conserve globally significant biodiversity, and support sustainable fisheries and other ecosystem goods and services in these LMEs. This objective is intended to be achieved through three components: (i) multifaceted approach to supporting and expanding networks MPAs; (ii) strengthening the enabling environment for management and governance of MPA networks; and (iii) learning, knowledge management, and networking.</p> <p>In the Philippines the project will be implemented in the following areas:</p>
<p><b>Agenda / Discussion Points</b></p>	<p>NEDA's comments on the Effectively Managing Networks of Marine Protected Areas in Large Marine Ecosystems in the ASEAN Region (ASEAN ENMAPS) Project</p> <p>In a Memorandum dated 29 July 2024, NEDA informed the DENR of its endorsement of the proposed ASEAN ENMAPS project to DOF. They also recommended the following actions in the implementation and monitoring of the project:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Present the project to relevant oversight bodies such as the Regional Development Councils for Region I, V, and MIMAROPA, and concerned PAMBs</li> <li>b. Explore possible financial arrangements or mechanisms such as local funds and the IPAF to sustain management initiatives for MPA networks and associated marine corridors.</li> <li>c. Ensure the project's enrollment into respective Regional Development Investment Programs</li> </ol> <p>NEDA also submitted comments on the project document (ANNEX B)</p> <p>The meeting may discuss and agree on the ways forward for each of the points raised by NEDA.</p>
<p><b>ANNEXES</b></p>	<p><b>A – MEMO FOR THE SENR DATED 05 AUGUST 2024</b>  <b>B – NEDA COMMENTS ON ASEAN ENMAPS</b></p>

-END-



## MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY

THRU : The Chief of Staff and Supervising Undersecretary for Strategic Communication

FROM : The Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs

SUBJECT : **EFFECTIVELY MANAGING NETWORKS OF MARINE PROTECTED AREAS IN LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEMS IN THE ASEAN REGION (ASEAN ENMAPS)**

DATE : **AUG 05 2024**

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This pertains to the attached letter dated 29 July 2024 from the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), regarding the Department's project entitled "Effectively Managing Networks of Marine Protected Areas in Large Ecosystems in the ASEAN Region (ASEAN ENMAPS)", for implementation by the Global Environment Facility under its Seventh Replenishment Cycle (GEF-7), with a grant amount of US\$12,548,861 to be implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and executed by the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB).

Upon their review, NEDA finds the proposal aligned with the priority strategies under Chapter 15 on Accelerate Climate Action and Strengthen Disaster Risk Resilience of the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2023-2028 and the relevant Regional Development Plans. In NEDA's conclusion, the project's activities and outputs toward the promotion of collaborative management in marine protected areas and enhancement of blue economy investments are responsive to the priority PDP strategies on (a) intensifying ecosystem protection, rehabilitation, and management, and (b) scaling up the mobilization of sustainable finance from public and private sources. Thus, NEDA endorsed the proposal to the Department of Finance (DOF) through letter dated 26 July 2024.

Furthermore, NEDA would like to provide the following comments/recommendations, for the DENR's consideration:

- a. Present the project to relevant oversight bodies such as the Regional Development Councils (RDCs) such as RDC I, RDC MIMAROPA, RDC V and the concerned Protected Area Management Boards (PAMB);
- b. Explore possible financial arrangements or mechanisms such as local funds and the Integrated Protected Areas Fund (IPAF) to sustain the management initiatives for MPA networks and associated marine corridors;
- c. Ensure the project's enrollment into the respective Regional Development Investment Programs (RDIPs);
- d. Project Document:

- **Specific Output 1.1.1.: Scientific studies and modeling, social and environmental assessments, and institutional analyses completed to inform functional connectivity within the target LMEs.** The implementing unit may also collaborate with research arms of relevant state universities near the project sites. In particular, this collaboration will facilitate the execution of Output 1, which includes conducting scientific studies and modelling, social and environmental assessments, and institutional analyses.
- **Component 2: Strengthening the enabling environment for management and governance of MPA networks.** NEDA would like to clarify whether separate management bodies will be created for other MPANs that are not under the NIPAS (i.e., Bani-Bolinao-Infanta-Dasol-Agno) area to oversee and coordinate activities under the management plans.
- **Component 3: Learning, knowledge management and networking.** NEDA suggests the conduct of regional or national MPA Fora or Summits as part of the project's learning and knowledge management strategy. These events may serve as platforms for sharing best practices and lessons learned from managing MPAs and their networks, including local practices by indigenous groups in MPA management.
- **Section IV: Results and Partnerships (Item 128, Indicative Activities under Output 2.2.1).** NEDA suggests the inclusion of the municipalities of Bulan, Matnog, Pilar, and Donsol in the province of Sorsogon as part of the relevant stakeholders during the conduct of planning meetings, workshops, and dialogues for the national/ sub-national MPAN management. This is considering that the said local government units (LGUs) are also within the TBPPS.
- **Section VII: Governance and Management Arrangements.** NEDA recommends identifying the relevant agencies that will be involved in the Philippine National Project Steering Committee. The project team may closely coordinate with the National CTI-CFF Coordinating Committee (NCCC) considering possible similarities in the agencies who may be involved in the project. For instance, the DENR-BMB serves as the secretariat for the NCCC who will also lead the implementation of the project in the Philippines.
- **Section VIII: Financial Planning and Management.** NEDA recommends that the DENR revisit the counterpart funding given the following inconsistencies:

Responsible Party	ASEAN ENMAPS Project Document (USD)	December 12, 2023 GEF Letter/ Project Brief (USD)
DENR BMB	7,501,721.00	99,240.00
LGU Bato	76,940.00	86,368.23
LGU Balatan	48,629.00	49,578.66
LGU Pio Duran	99,240.00	130,768.23

- To ensure stakeholder collaboration and commitment in the implementation of the project, a Memorandum of Agreement may be established with the relevant stakeholders. This is particularly

important for agencies and offices required to provide counterpart funding, such as the DENR Regional Offices and Protected Area Management Boards.

- **Monitoring Mechanism.** To apprise the concerned regional offices of the project's progress, NEDA suggests the project team and the implementing agency submit quarterly monitoring and evaluation reports to the concerned Regional Project Monitoring Committee of each RDC. The report should follow the Regional Project Monitoring and Evaluation System and include specific gender performance and qualitative indicators to measure the impacts of the project's outputs/outcomes.

Accordingly, we have forwarded NEDA's letter and comments/recommendations to the Foreign-Assisted and Special Projects Service (FASPS) for their appropriate action.

For the Secretary's information and/or further instructions, please.

  
ATTY. JONAS R. LEONES

NOTED:

**MARIA ANTONIA YULO LOYZAGA**  
Secretary



## MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY

THRU : The Chief of Staff and Supervising Undersecretary for Strategic Communication

FROM : The Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs

SUBJECT : **EFFECTIVELY MANAGING NETWORKS OF MARINE PROTECTED AREAS IN LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEMS IN THE ASEAN REGION (ASEAN ENMAPS)**

DATE : AUG 05 2024

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For the Secretary's information and/or further instructions, please.

  
ATTY. JONAS R. LEONES

NOTED:

MARIA ANTONIA YULO LOYZAGA  
Secretary  



Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs <ouppia@denr.gov.ph>

## Fwd: OSEC-2024-004505: DENR Letter to NEDA re Endorsement of Request for SPA/OP Approval for the Project ASEAN ENMAPS under GEF-7.

DENR OSEC Referral <osec.referral@denr.gov.ph>

Mon, Jul 29, 2024 at 10:20 PM

To: "Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs" <ouppia@denr.gov.ph>

Cc: &PIS-pfd2@neda.gov.ph

Sir/Madam:

Respectfully referred to your good office for information and appropriate action, with EDATS No. OSEC-2024-004505.

Thank you!

**NOTE: DO NOT REPLY TO THIS EMAIL.** For updates, inquiries and other communications, please send to [osec@denr.gov.ph](mailto:osec@denr.gov.ph).



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
4/F DENR Main Building  
Visayas Avenue, Diliman  
Quezon City

From: &PIS-Program Financing II Division <&PIS-pfd2@neda.gov.ph>

Date: Mon, Jul 29, 2024 at 2:49 PM

Subject: DENR Letter to NEDA re Endorsement of Request for SPA/OP Approval for the Project ASEAN ENMAPS under GEF-7.

To: [osec@denr.gov.ph](mailto:osec@denr.gov.ph), [oueiea.denr@gmail.com](mailto:oueiea.denr@gmail.com), [oueiea.denr@gmail.com](mailto:oueiea.denr@gmail.com), [jbalbosa@dof.gov.ph](mailto:jbalbosa@dof.gov.ph), [jbalbosa@dof.gov.ph](mailto:jbalbosa@dof.gov.ph)

Cc: [acb.oed@aseanbiodiversity.org](mailto:acb.oed@aseanbiodiversity.org), [enmaps@aseanbiodiversity.org](mailto:enmaps@aseanbiodiversity.org), [enmaps@aseanbiodiversity.org](mailto:enmaps@aseanbiodiversity.org), [dofosec2022@gmail.com](mailto:dofosec2022@gmail.com), [dofosec2022@gmail.com](mailto:dofosec2022@gmail.com), [ifg\\_multilateral@dof.gov.ph](mailto:ifg_multilateral@dof.gov.ph), [ifg\\_multilateral@dof.gov.ph](mailto:ifg_multilateral@dof.gov.ph), [ifg\\_ifpo@dof.gov.ph](mailto:ifg_ifpo@dof.gov.ph), [ifg\\_ifpo@dof.gov.ph](mailto:ifg_ifpo@dof.gov.ph), [osec@dfa.gov.ph](mailto:osec@dfa.gov.ph), [osec@dfa.gov.ph](mailto:osec@dfa.gov.ph), [kira.azucena@dfa.gov.ph](mailto:kira.azucena@dfa.gov.ph), [kira.azucena@dfa.gov.ph](mailto:kira.azucena@dfa.gov.ph), [unio.div1@dfa.gov.ph](mailto:unio.div1@dfa.gov.ph), [unio.div1@dfa.gov.ph](mailto:unio.div1@dfa.gov.ph), Rosemarie G. Edillon <[rgedillon@neda.gov.ph](mailto:rgedillon@neda.gov.ph)>, Rowena M. Arellano <[rmarellano@neda.gov.ph](mailto:rmarellano@neda.gov.ph)>, Carlos Bernardo O. Abad Santos <[coabadsantos@neda.gov.ph](mailto:coabadsantos@neda.gov.ph)>, Ruzzell E. Carlos <[recarlos@neda.gov.ph](mailto:recarlos@neda.gov.ph)>, Joseph J. Capuno <[jjcapuno@neda.gov.ph](mailto:jjcapuno@neda.gov.ph)>, Jonathan L. Uy <[jluy@neda.gov.ph](mailto:jluy@neda.gov.ph)>, Roderick M. Planta <[rmplanta@neda.gov.ph](mailto:rmplanta@neda.gov.ph)>, IPG Support Team <[ipgsupportteam@neda.gov.ph](mailto:ipgsupportteam@neda.gov.ph)>, Nieva T. Natural <[ntnatural@neda.gov.ph](mailto:ntnatural@neda.gov.ph)>, Rory Jay S.C. Dacumos <[rsdacumos@neda.gov.ph](mailto:rsdacumos@neda.gov.ph)>, &ANRES-nrd <[&ANRES-nrd@neda.gov.ph](mailto:&ANRES-nrd@neda.gov.ph)>, &ANRES-od <[&ANRES-od@neda.gov.ph](mailto:&ANRES-od@neda.gov.ph)>, Cynthia A. Villena <[cavillena@neda.gov.ph](mailto:cavillena@neda.gov.ph)>, Claire Michelle G. Balde <[cgbalde@neda.gov.ph](mailto:cgbalde@neda.gov.ph)>, &RDS-od <[&RDS-od@neda.gov.ph](mailto:&RDS-od@neda.gov.ph)>, Agustin C. Mendoza <[acmendoza@neda.gov.ph](mailto:acmendoza@neda.gov.ph)>, Apollo Edwin S. Pagano <[aspagano@neda.gov.ph](mailto:aspagano@neda.gov.ph)>, NEDA Regional Office IV-B MIMAROPA <[mimaropa@neda.gov.ph](mailto:mimaropa@neda.gov.ph)>, Edna Cynthia S. Berces <[esberces@neda.gov.ph](mailto:esberces@neda.gov.ph)>, &NRO5-ord <[&NRO5-ord@neda.gov.ph](mailto:&NRO5-ord@neda.gov.ph)>, Stephanie F. Christiansen <[sfchristiansen@neda.gov.ph](mailto:sfchristiansen@neda.gov.ph)>, Irenea B. Ubungen <[ibubungen@neda.gov.ph](mailto:ibubungen@neda.gov.ph)>, &NRO1-ord <[&NRO1-ord@neda.gov.ph](mailto:&NRO1-ord@neda.gov.ph)>, Maria Felicidad R. Guerrero <[mrguerrero@neda.gov.ph](mailto:mrguerrero@neda.gov.ph)>, Eleanor M. Reyes <[emreyes@neda.gov.ph](mailto:emreyes@neda.gov.ph)>, &NRO9-ord <[&NRO9-ord@neda.gov.ph](mailto:&NRO9-ord@neda.gov.ph)>, Joseph Norley Y. Capistrano <[jycapistrano@neda.gov.ph](mailto:jycapistrano@neda.gov.ph)>, Calixto M. Mangilin, Jr. <[cmmangilin@neda.gov.ph](mailto:cmmangilin@neda.gov.ph)>, &PIS-Program Financing II Division <[&PIS-pfd2@neda.gov.ph](mailto:&PIS-pfd2@neda.gov.ph)>, &PIS-od <[&PIS-od@neda.gov.ph](mailto:&PIS-od@neda.gov.ph)>

FOR

: **SECRETARY MA. ANTONIA YULO-LOYZAGA**  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources

**ATTENTION: UNDERSECRETARY JONAS R. LEONES**  
Policy, Planning and International Affairs, DENR

**UNDERSECRETARY JOVEN Z. BALBOSA**  
International Finance Group  
Department of Finance

FROM : NEDA-Public Investment Staff (PIS)

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Dear Secretary Loyzaga, Undersecretary Leones and Undersecretary Balbosa,

This is to respectfully transmit the following letters regarding the Project ASEAN ENMAPS:






1. Letter to DOF endorsing the project; and
2. Letter to DENR with NEDA comments and recommendations on the proposal for consideration during project implementation.

Also attached are the project documents, for DOF's reference.

Thank you and regards,  
PIS-Multilaterals Division  
NEDA

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**5 attachments**

-  2024 0729 NEDA Endorsement Letter to DOF re ASEAN ENMAPS.pdf  
582K
-  20240604-DENR - 1.pdf  
64K
-  2024 0729 NEDA Letter to DENR Endorsement of ASEAN ENMAPS.pdf  
697K
-  1. ASEAN ENMAPS Project Document, signed.pdf - 144 pages  
3751K
-  20240604-DENR - 1.pdf  
1871K



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
**NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

July 29, 2024

**MARIA ANTONIA YULO LOYZAGA**

Secretary  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
SECAL Building, DENR Compound  
Visayas Avenue, Diliman  
Quezon City

**ATTENTION :**        **JONAS R. LEONES**  
Undersecretary, Policy, Planning and International Affairs

**SUBJECT :**        **Effectively Managing Networks of Marine Protected  
Areas in Large Marine Ecosystems in the ASEAN  
Region (ASEAN ENMAPS)**

Dear **Secretary Loyzaga**:

This refers to the Department of Environment's (DENR) project entitled "**Effectively Managing Networks of Marine Protected Areas in Large Marine Ecosystems in the ASEAN Region (ASEAN ENMAPS)**" proposed for possible grant assistance from the Global Environment Facility under its Seventh Replenishment Cycle (GEF-7).

NEDA finds the proposal aligned with the priority strategies under Chapter 15 on Accelerate Climate Action and Strengthen Disaster Risk Resilience of the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2023-2028 and the relevant Regional Development Plans. In particular, the project's activities and outputs toward the promotion of collaborative management in marine protected areas and enhancement of blue economy investments are responsive to the priority PDP strategies on (a) intensifying ecosystem protection, rehabilitation, and management, and (b) scaling up the mobilization of sustainable finance from public and private sources.

We have therefore endorsed the proposal to the Department of Finance (DOF) through letter dated July 26, 2024 (copy attached). This endorsement notwithstanding, attached is a summary of NEDA's comments for DENR's consideration during project implementation.

Should you have any questions, your Office may coordinate with the NEDA Public Investment Staff (c/o OIC Director Joseph Norley Y. Capistrano) through email: [&PIS-pfd2@neda.gov.ph](mailto:&PIS-pfd2@neda.gov.ph) and [&PIS-od@neda.gov.ph](mailto:&PIS-od@neda.gov.ph).

Very truly yours,

**JOSEPH J. CAPUNO**  
Undersecretary  
Investment Programming Group

**Cc:** SECRETARY RALPH G. RECTO, DOF  
SECRETARY ENRIQUE A. MANALO, Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA)  
UNDERSECRETARY JOVEN Z. BALBOSA, DOF-International Finance Group  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY KIRA CHRISTIANNE D. AZUCENA, DFA-United Nations and  
International Organizations

**Attachments:**

1. Endorsement letter to DOF dated July 29, 2024
2. NEDA comments and recommendations on the proposal

**NEDA Comments and Recommendations on Effectively Managing Networks of Marine Protected Areas in Large Marine Ecosystems in the ASEAN Region (ASEAN ENMAPS)**

July 29, 2024

**General**

1. NEDA finds the proposal aligned with the priority strategies under Chapter 15 Accelerate Climate Action and Strengthen Disaster Risk Resilience of the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2023-2028 and the relevant Regional Development Plans. In particular, the project's activities and outputs toward the promotion of collaborative management in marine protected areas (MPAs) and enhancement of blue economy investments are responsive to the priority PDP strategies on (a) intensifying ecosystem protection, rehabilitation, and management, and (b) scaling up the mobilization of sustainable finance from public and private sources.
2. Likewise, the project will complement with relevant sectoral plans and programs, such as:
  - a. **Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (PBSAP) 2015- 2028<sup>1</sup>**. PBSAP serves as a comprehensive national plan that lays down the priority actions for the protection and conservation of the country's biodiversity, including ecosystems such as the coastal and marine. At present, the PBSAP is currently being updated to ensure the alignment of the goals and targets set in the Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.
  - b. **National and Regional Plan of Action (NPOA) 2.0<sup>2</sup>**. The NPOA 2.0 of the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF) aims to localize the goals and targets of the Regional Plan of Action which has identified priorities and activities to meet the needs of the Coral Triangle Member Countries. One of the key targets identified in the plan is the establishment of strategic partnerships to support MPAs.
  - c. **Coastal and Marine Ecosystems Management Program (CMEMP) 2016-2028<sup>3</sup>**. The CMEMP is the DENR's flagship program towards ensuring the effective management of the country's coastal and marine ecosystems. The program's main objective is to improve the quality of life of the coastal population by ensuring the stable provisioning of ecological goods and services (i.e., food security, climate change resiliency, and disaster risk reduction). One of the program's key components is on MPA Network Establishment and Strengthening which focuses on the protection and restoration of degraded coastal and marine habitats.

<sup>1</sup> The Biodiversity Management Bureau of the DENR is currently updating PBSAP.

<sup>2</sup> The Biodiversity Management Bureau of the DENR is leading the formulation of the NPOA 2.0 which is anchored on the CTI-CFF Regional Plan of Action 2.0 covering the period 2021-2030

<sup>3</sup> <https://elibrary.bmb.gov.ph/elibrary/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/dao2016-26.pdf>

3. Notwithstanding, NEDA would like to provide the following recommendations, for the DENR's consideration as the project's lead executing agency, to ensure smooth implementation and monitoring of the project:
  - a. Present the project to relevant oversight bodies such as the Regional Development Councils (RDCs) such as RDC I, RDC MIMAROPA, RDC V)<sup>4</sup> and the concerned Protected Area Management Boards (PAMB);
  - b. Explore possible financial arrangements or mechanisms such as local funds and the Integrated Protected Areas Fund (IPAF) to sustain the management initiatives for MPA networks and associated marine corridors;
  - c. Ensure the project's enrollment into the respective Regional Development Investment Programs (RDIPs); and

### Specific

4. **Output 1.1.1.: Scientific studies and modeling, social and environmental assessments, and institutional analyses completed to inform functional connectivity within the target LMEs.** The implementing unit may also collaborate with research arms of relevant state universities near the project sites. In particular, this collaboration will facilitate the execution of Output 1, which includes conducting scientific studies and modelling, social and environmental assessments, and institutional analyses.
5. **Component 2: Strengthening the enabling environment for management and governance of MPA networks.** NEDA would like to clarify whether separate management bodies will be created for other MPANs that are not under the NIPAS (i.e., Bani-Bollinao-Infanta-Dasol-Agno) area to oversee and coordinate activities under the management plans.
6. **Component 3: Learning, knowledge management and networking.** NEDA suggests the conduct of regional or national MPA Fora or Summits as part of the project's learning and knowledge management strategy. These events may serve as platforms for sharing best practices and lessons learned from managing MPAs and their networks, including local practices by indigenous groups in MPA management.
7. **Section IV: Results and Partnerships (Item 128, Indicative Activities under Output 2.2.1).** NEDA suggests the inclusion of the municipalities of Bulan, Matnog, Pilar, and Donsol in the province of Sorsogon as part of the relevant stakeholders during the conduct of planning meetings, workshops, and dialogues for the national/ sub-national MPAN management. This is considering that the said local government units (LGUs) are also within the TBPPS.
8. **Section VII: Governance and Management Arrangements.** NEDA recommends identifying the relevant agencies that will be involved in the Philippine National Project Steering Committee. The project team may closely coordinate with

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<sup>4</sup> Kindly note that the TIWS is no longer under the jurisdiction of the RDC IX given that its management has been turned over to the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region for Muslim Mindanao (BARMM)

the National CTI-CFF Coordinating Committee (NCCC) considering possible similarities in the agencies who may be involved in the project. For instance, the DENR-BMB serves as the secretariat for the NCCC who will also lead the implementation of the project in the Philippines.

9. **Section VIII: Financial Planning and Management** NEDA recommends that the DENR revisit the counterpart funding given the following inconsistencies:

Responsible Party	ASEAN ENMAPS Project Document (USD)	December 12, 2023 GEF Letter/ Project Brief (USD)
DENR BMB	7,501,721.00	7,608,728.00
LGU Bato	76,940.00	86,368.23
LGU Balatan	48,629.00	49,578.66
LGU Pio Duran	99,240.00	130,768.23

10. To ensure stakeholder collaboration and commitment in the implementation of the project, a Memorandum of Agreement may be established with the relevant stakeholders. This is particularly important for agencies and offices required to provide counterpart funding, such as the DENR Regional Offices and Protected Area Management Boards.
11. **Monitoring Mechanism.** To apprise the concerned regional offices of the project's progress, NEDA suggests the project team and the implementing agency submit quarterly monitoring and evaluation reports to the concerned Regional Project Monitoring Committee of each RDC. The report should follow the Regional Project Monitoring and Evaluation System and include specific gender performance and qualitative indicators to measure the impacts of the project's outputs/ outcomes.

-END-





**GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY**  
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

November 8, 2021

Mr. PradEEP Kurukulasuriya  
GEF Executive Coordinator  
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)  
New York, USA

Dear Mr. Kurukulasuriya,

I am pleased to inform you that I have cleared the project concept detailed below for inclusion in the upcoming work program. I have also approved your request for Project Preparation Grant.

Decision Sought:	Project Identification Form (PIF) Clearance for Work Program Inclusion and Project Preparation Grant Approval
GEFSEC ID:	10873
Agency:	UNDP
Agency ID:	6375
Focal Area:	Multi Focal Area
Project Type:	Full-sized Project
Countries:	Regional (Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand)
Name of Project:	Effectively Managing Networks of Marine Protected Areas in Large Marine Ecosystems in the ASEAN Region (ASEAN ENMAPS)
Indicative GEF Project Financing:	\$12,548,861
Indicative Agency Fee:	\$1,129,397
PPG:	\$289,100
PPG Fee:	\$26,019
Funding Source:	GEF Trust Fund

Indicative Agency Fee Commitment:					
Agency	Trust Fund	20% to be committed at Council approval (US\$)	50% to be committed at first disbursement (US\$)	30% to be committed at mid-term review (US\$)	Total (US\$)
UNDP	GEFTF	225,879	564,699	338,819	1,129,397

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E-mail: [gefceo@thegef.org](mailto:gefceo@thegef.org)  
[www.thegef.org](http://www.thegef.org)

This PIF clearance and PPG approval are based on the understanding that the project is in conformity with GEF Trust Fund focal area strategies and with GEF policies and procedures. Please ensure that your final project document, having fully addressed all Secretariat, STAP, Convention Secretariats and Council comments, will be endorsed within 18 months of Council approval of the work program.

Sincerely,



Claude Gascon  
Acting Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson  
Global Environment Facility

Copy to: Country Operational Focal Point, GEF Agencies, STAP, Trustee



M.Sc. Carlos Manuel Rodriguez  
CEO and Chairperson

December 12, 2023

Mr. Pradeep Kurukulasuriya  
GEF Executive Coordinator  
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)  
New York, USA

Dear Ms. Kurukulasuriya,

I am pleased to inform you that I have endorsed the full-sized project detailed below:

Decision Sought:	CEO Endorsement of Full-sized Project
GEFSEC ID:	10873
Agency:	UNDP
Agency ID:	6375
Focal Area:	Multi Focal Area
Project Type:	Full-sized Project
Country:	Regional (Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand)
Name of Project:	Effectively Managing Networks of Marine Protected Areas in Large Marine Ecosystems in the ASEAN Region (ASEAN ENMAPS)
GEF Project Financing:	\$ 12,548,861
Agency Fee:	\$ 1,129,397
Funding Source:	GEF Trust Fund

Agency Fee Commitment:					
Agency	Trust Fund	20% committed at Council approval (US\$)	50% to be committed at first disbursement (US\$)	30% to be committed at mid-term review (US\$)	Total (US\$)
UNDP	GEFTF	225,879	564,699	338,819	1,129,397

This endorsement is based on the understanding that the project is in conformity with the GEF focal areas strategies and in line with GEF policies and procedures.

Sincerely,

M. Sc. Carlos Manuel Rodriguez  
Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson

Copy to: Country Operational Focal Point, GEF Agencies, Trustee

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<b>PROJECT BRIEF</b>	
<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>Effectively Managing Networks of Marine Protected Areas in Large Marine Ecosystems in the ASEAN Region (ASEAN ENMAPS)</b>
<b>AGENCY</b>	Executing Agency (EA): ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB)  Implementing Agency (IA): United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Bangkok Regional Hub (BRH)
<b>A. PROJECT DETAILS</b>	
Objective	To develop and improve the management of networks of marine protected areas and marine corridors within selected Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs) in the ASEAN region for the conservation of globally significant biodiversity and support for sustainable fisheries and other ecosystem goods and services.
Scope (including breakdown of cost)	<b>Component 1:</b> Multifaceted approach to supporting and expanding networks of marine protected areas (MPAs);  <b>Component 2:</b> Strengthening the enabling environment for management and governance of MPA networks; and  <b>Component 3:</b> Learning, knowledge management and networking
Goals and Benefits	The proposed ASEAN ENMAPS project could leverage other regional conservation investments of similar mandates in the ASEAN to scale-up in a more coherent and collaborative manner the MPA management and sustainable fisheries in the region. The project envisions transformative changes in the management of ecological networks of MPAs in the LMEs, building upon national initiatives to develop and manage MPAs and use of ICM and MSPs and increasing coverage of management and protection through conservation corridors. This upscaling of conservation areas aspires to attain improved support and sustainability to fisheries and other ecosystem goods and services.
Stakeholders	National Governments; Local Governments; Other sector agencies; NGOs; Academic, Research, Scientific Communities, and Technical Institutions; Community Organizations; and Private/business Sectors
Implementation Period	2024-2029
Location	Philippine component: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Region I: Agoo-Damortis Protected Landscape and Seascape (ADPLS)</li> <li>• Region I: Bani-Bolinao-Burgos-Infanta-Dasol-Agno (BBBIDA)</li> <li>• Region V: Ticao-Burias Pass Protected Seascape (TBPPS)</li> <li>• Region IVB: Tubbataha Reef Natural Park (TRNP)</li> <li>• BARMM: Turtle Islands Wildlife Sanctuary (TIWS)</li> </ul>
Target Completion Date	2029

<b>B. GRANT DETAILS</b>			
Total Project Cost	in PhP		in US\$
	701,343,292.429		12,548,861
Sources of Funding	Donor (US\$)	GOP Counterpart (US\$)	
	US\$ 4,200,000 (Philippines only)	Total (US\$)	
		Biodiversity Management Bureau: 7,608,728	12,548,861
		DENR-KISS: 285,152.58	
		DENR-FASPS: 261,395.73	
		DENR Region I: 1,355,993	
		DENR Region IV-B: 19,219	
		DENR Region V: 1,137,156	
		Palawan Council for Sustainable Development: 59,264,26	
		LGU Ligao of Albay: 121,147.88	
		LGU Bato of Camarines Sur: 86,367.231	
		LGU Balatan of Camarines Sur: 49,578.68	
		LGU Pangasinan: 3,464,040	
		LGU Dasol of Pangasinan: 202,567.53	
		LGU Burgos of Pangasinan: 339,259.49	
		LGU Agno of Pangasinan: 152,998.58	
		LGU Pio Duran of Albay: 130,768.23	
		Tubbataha Protected Area Management Board: 500,321.45	

\*Exchange rate used: US\$1 = PhP 55.889 (as of May 2024)



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

## NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

July 29, 2024

**JOVEN Z. BALBOSA**

Undersecretary  
International Finance Group  
Department of Finance  
Roxas Boulevard cor. P. Ocampo Street  
Manila

**SUBJECT: Effectively Managing Networks of Marine Protected Areas in Large Marine Ecosystems in the ASEAN Region (ASEAN ENMAPS)**

Dear Undersecretary Balbosa:

This is to endorse the Department of Environment and Natural Resources' (DENR) proposal entitled "**Effectively Managing Networks of Marine Protected Areas in Large Marine Ecosystems in the ASEAN Region (ASEAN ENMAPS)**" for possible grant assistance from the Global Environment Facility under its Seventh Replenishment Cycle (GEF-7).

The DENR requested NEDA review and subsequent endorsement of the project to the Department of Finance (DOF) to facilitate the issuance by the Office of the President of a Special Authority for the concerned DENR officials to sign the Project Document (ProDoc).

The regional project, which will be implemented by the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity, aims to develop and improve the management of networks of marine protected areas and marine corridors within selected Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs) in the ASEAN region (i.e., Indonesia, Thailand and Philippines) for the conservation of globally significant biodiversity and support for sustainable fisheries and other ecosystem goods and services.

The project has three components, namely:

- Component 1: Multifaceted approach to supporting and expanding networks of marine protected areas (MPAs);
- Component 2: Facilitating the establishment, further development and effective implementation of biosafety systems at national level; and
- Component 3: Learning, knowledge management and networking.

The Philippine component will be implemented within the following areas: (a) Agoo-Damortis Protected Landscape and Seascape; (b) Bani-Bolinao-Burgos-Infanta-Dasol-Agno; (c) Ticao-Burias Pass Protected Seascape; (d) Turtle Islands Wildlife Sanctuary; and (e) Tubbataha Reef Natural Park.

The project will be implemented for 60 months (2024-2029), and requires an indicative GEF financing in the amount of USD 12,548,861.

NEDA finds the proposal aligned with the priority strategies under Chapter 15 on Accelerate Climate Action and Strengthen Disaster Risk Resilience of the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2023-2028 and the relevant Regional Development Plans. In particular, the project's activities and outputs toward the promotion of collaborative management in marine protected areas and enhancement of blue economy investments are responsive to the priority PDP strategies on (i) intensifying ecosystem protection, rehabilitation, and management, and (ii) scaling up the mobilization of sustainable finance from public and private sources.

Should you have questions, your Office may coordinate with the NEDA Public Investment Staff (c/o OIC Director Joseph Norley Y. Capistrano) through email: [&PIS-pfd2@neda.gov.ph](mailto:&PIS-pfd2@neda.gov.ph) and [&PIS-od@neda.gov.ph](mailto:&PIS-od@neda.gov.ph).

Very truly yours,

  
**JOSEPH J. CAPUNO**  
Undersecretary  
Investment Programming Group

**Cc:** SECRETARY RALPH G. RECTO, DOF  
SECRETARY ENRIQUE A. MANALO, Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA)  
SECRETARY MARIA ANTONIA YULO LOYZAGA, DENR  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY KIRA CHRISTIANNE D. AZUCENA, DFA-United Nations and International Organizations

**Attachments:** Project Documents