



Bohol's Danajon Reef chosen as learning site in PHE confab

The Integrated Population and Coastal Resource Management (IPOPCORM), a "gold-standard" integrated Population-Health-Environment (PHE) approach will be showcased at the South-to-South Exchange on Integrated Population-Health-Environment (SSE-PHE) for Executives of Government and Non Governmental Organizations.

The SSE-PHE opens tomorrow and will run until 8 and will be hosted by the provincial government of Bohol through the office of Gov. Erico Aumentado.

IPOPCORM is implemented by PATH Foundation Philippines, Inc. in partnership with local government units and community-based organizations.

The event includes visits to the municipalities of Ubay, Talibon and Bien-Unido and marine protected areas in the vicinity of the Danajon Double Reef. These areas are PFPI's learning sites on integrated PHE.

Participants are government and non-government executives from Tanzania, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Indonesia and the Philippines.

The South-to-South Exchange is a cross-institutional learning opportunity targeted at executives of health, development and conservation organizations interested in pursuing integrated PHE programming.

The exposure aims to strengthen the participants' knowledge of community-based and integrated PHE systems and service delivery mechanisms, and promote alliances among government and non government decision and policy makers intending to implement PHE interventions.

The SSE-PHE will also provide the opportunity to develop site-specific plans of action for adapting best practices in PHE service delivery for replication in their country settings that include advocacy communication, capacity building and service delivery.

The exchange is being conducted by the USAID supported Building Actors and Leaders for Advancing Community Excellence in Development (BALANCED) Project as part of a strategy to share state-of-the-art knowledge and build capacity of organizations to implement effective PHE approaches.

The BALANCED Project is global initiative that promotes and supports integrated population, health and environment (PHE) programs worldwide, and is implemented by the Coastal Resource Center of the University of Rhode Island (CRC-URI) with PATH Foundation Philippines, Inc. (PFP) and Conservation International (CI) as partners.

(Bruce EGT Zabala)
www.boholchronicle.com