

## Project Update: July 2013

### 1. Organisational Meetings

Project Site	*Regular Meetings	Emergency/Special Meetings
Larap, Jose Panganiban	6 meetings * every first Saturday of the month	2 meetings
Palanas, Paracale		5 meetings

### 2. Nursery Operation

A total of 4,500 assorted seedlings of mangroves were raised in the nursery in Barangay Larap, Jose Panganiban, Camarines Norte. These include Langarai (*Excoecaria agallocha*), Tangal (*Ceriops tagal*), Bakawan lalaki (*Rhizophora apiculata*) and locally known balik-balik and tiga. Nursery operation started in November 2012. Nursery has been maintained by the partner community-based organisation (JPEPA), with the direct supervision of the proponent.

For the other project site, the proponent did not raise any seedlings in the nursery due to unstable condition of the proposed planting site, since the site is within the existing mineral production sharing agreement of one of the large-scale mining company in the province. Local village officials are hesitant to put up similar project due to negative experiences in the community, wherein they planted several trees and were only damaged due to mining operation.

### 3. Workshops / Lectures

Project Site	Workshop	Lecture
Larap, Jose Panganiban	2 workshops	3 lectures
Palanas, Paracale	1 workshop	3 lectures

These include training/seminar on organisational life cycle and workshop on the establishment of protection forest by A-Forestation approach or the modified Miyawaki method. Lecture series on basic ecological concepts were also provided to local people in two project sites.

### 4. Mangrove Tree Planting

After almost 8 months in the nursery, all mangrove seedlings were out planted in the field on June 22nd, 2013. The inaugural planting was done during the anniversary of the Jose Panganiban Environmental Protectors Association. Three mangrove zones such as the mudflat/sandy (seaward zone), rocky (mid zone) and the landward zone were planted by appropriate mangrove species using the A-Forestation approach (a modified Miyawaki Method of planting)

## 5. Other Activities

On May 4th, 2013, the Municipal Mayor of Jose Panganiban, Honorable Ricarte Padilla, visited the project site, giving the chance for the community people to explain their real needs, based on the result of the problem tree analysis conducted in 2012.

On July 6th, 2013, newly elected Councilor, Honorable Artemio Andaya, of the municipality of Jose Panganiban also paid a visit at the project site. Immediate concern that the community raised was the proclamation of the project site and its vicinity as protected area to regulate activities in the specified site. At present, the Sangguniang Bayan drafted a Resolution declaring the project site and its vicinity as protected area. JPEPA is still lobbying to the realisation of the said Resolution.

## 6. Request of the proponent

Since the project in one of the proposed sites (Palanas, Paracale, Camarines Norte) did not go smoothly compared to the other site (Larap, Jose Panganiban, Camarines Norte), for the reason explained in (2) above, the proponent WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST the Rufford Small Grants Foundation to transfer the upland component of project site to adjoining location where the same threats are experienced by the local people. The preferred site is in Brgy. Aguit-it, Vinzons, Camarines Norte with the following coordinates: 14° 16' 05" N and 122° 51' 31" E.



View of the project site after planting



Left: Visit of Honorable Mayor Ricarte Padilla at the Project Site. Right: Visit of Honorable Councilor Artemio Andaya (in red shirt) to the Project Site