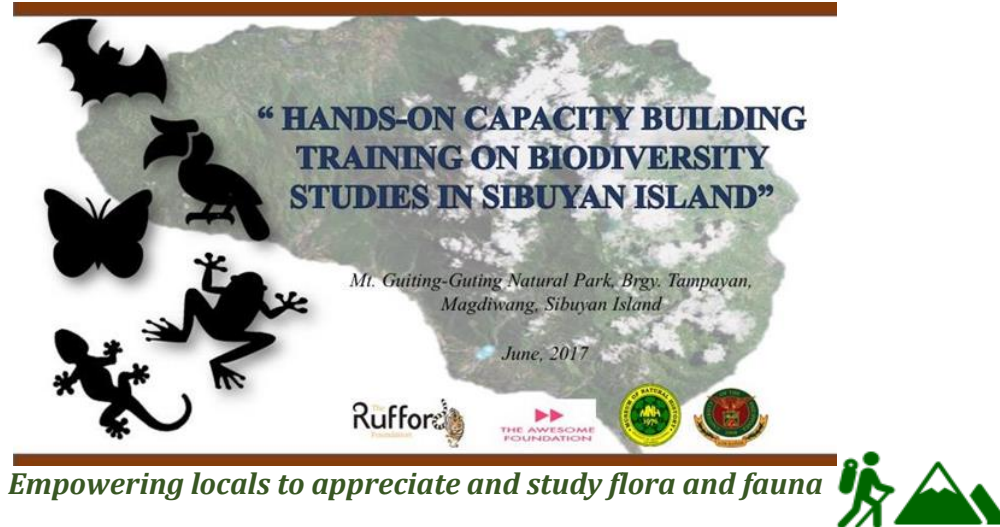


TRAINING REPORT

Maguiting Training Series 1: Hands-on Capacity Building Training on Biodiversity Studies in Sibuyan Island

10-12 June 2017

Protected Area Office, Mt. Guiting-Guiting Natural Park, Magdiwang, Romblon



INTRODUCTION

Sibuyan has been christened by many field biologists as "the Galápagos of Asia", because of its geologic history. Since its formation, the island of Sibuyan has never been connected to any part of the Philippines. According to the geologic history, movements of the earth's crust formed the majestic peaks of Mt. Guiting-Guiting. The term Guiting-guiting is descriptive of the saw-like jagged edges formed by the peaks of these uplifted rock formations.

Approximately 140 square kilometres (54 sq mi) of primary forest comprise 33% of the land area of Sibuyan. Here, the Mt. Guiting-guiting Natural Park serves to protect and manage these forests as such a diverse ecosystem is not exempt from risks brought about by anthropogenic activities (i.e. logging, mining, hunting etc).

However, every threat can also be turned into an opportunity. Building on the UPLB Museum of Natural History tradition of biodiversity conservation efforts through education, this capacity-building project seeks to train teachers and young field biologists through the MAGUITING TRAINING SERIES. Hands-on capacity training on biodiversity studies in Sibuyan Island aims to empower educators and students of Sibuyan as major players in biodiversity studies in their locality. That way, they themselves become more active in raising environmental awareness, forming values, and inspiring interest in conservation.

MAGUITING TRAINING SERIES is a series of hands-on training activity for teachers and young field biologists to nurture interest in Sibuyan biodiversity. The program is structured with short lectures and hands-on field demonstrations. It introduced the participants to basic concepts in biodiversity, particularly vertebrate and arthropod conservation, with special

attention to conducting biodiversity research work in the Sibuyan Island. Each lesson in this training was complemented with field exercises to apply the concepts taught in the lecture.

Conducting biodiversity research projects also need skills in sourcing funds to support fieldwork activities. During the training, the participants were engaged in identifying opportunities for research in their locality, the constraints that they foresee in implementing their proposed project(s) and how to deal with these constraints. These components are necessary in writing proposals that will be appealing to both local and international funding agencies.

PERSONNEL INVOLVED

Training Coordinator/ Facilitators

Mr. James DV. Alvarez

Dr. Aimee Lynn A. Barrion-Dupo

Ms. Camila G. Meneses

Training Staff/Volunteers

Mr. Edison Cosico

Mr. Jeremy Carlo B. Naredo

Mr. Cristian B. Lucanas

Mr. Joseph B. Rasalan

Mr. Adrian G. Supetran

Mr. John Joshua Asuzena

SEMINAR DESCRIPTION

MAGUITING TRAINING SERIES was a three-day hands-on training activity for teachers and young field biologists that nurtured interests in Sibuyan biodiversity. The program included short lectures and field demonstrations. It also introduced participants to basic concepts in biodiversity, particularly vertebrate and arthropod conservation, with special attention to conducting biodiversity research work in the Sibuyan Island.

Each lesson in the hands-on training was complemented with field exercises that applied the concepts taught in the lecture. The activity ended with an assignment for them to pursue in their own biodiversity research plan through development of their own capsule proposals.

PARTNER STAKEHOLDERS

PASU Malvin R. Rocero

Forester II, Protected Area Office
Mt. Guiting-Guiting Natural Park, Sibuyan

Dr. Arnulfo F. de Luna

President
Romblon State Unive

BUDGETARY REPORT

Course fee has been waived for the benefit of the participants. Meals and snacks for involved personnel and participants have been provided by Romblon State University. Accommodation fees for the participants have been waived by the Protected Area Office

PROFILE OF PARTICIPANTS

Seq. No	Name	Organization	Age	Gender	Status	Highest Educational Attainment	Work/ Experience
1	Balderama, Harvin G.	Romblon State University-Cajidiocan Campus	23	M	S	BS	Lecturer
2	Baylon, John Mark Rei R.	Romblon State University-Cajidiocan Campus	20	M	S	BS	Student
3	Fesarit, Dalvern F.	Mt. Guiting Guiting Natural Park	32	M	M	HS	Forest Ranger
4	Forcadas, Ernie L.	Mt. Guiting Guiting Natural Park	34	M	M	BS	Forest Technician
5	Gaspado, Sherry Via	Romblon State University-San Fernando Campus	18	F	S	BS	Student
6	Llavor, Marilou	Romblon State University-San Fernando Campus	52	F	M	MS	Associate Professor
7	Rada, Betcieva G.	Romblon State University-San Fernando Campus	32	F	F	MS	Assistant Professor/ Research Coordinator
8	Ramos, Emelia B.	Romblon State University-San Fernando Campus	50	F	M	PhD	Campus Director
9	Riano, Rina	Romblon State University-San Fernando Campus	19	F	S	BS	Student
10	Riño, Amelia R.	Romblon State University-San Fernando Campus	32	F	S	BS	Instructor
11	Riva, Carmen J.	Romblon State University-San Fernando Campus	56	F	M	PhD	Campus Dean
12	Romera, Mardoqueo R.	Romblon State University-San Fernando Campus	19	M	S	BS	Student

13	Roy, Richelle R.	Romblon State University- San Fernando Campus	19	F	S	BS	Student
14	Rutor, Kendall R.	Romblon State University- San Fernando Campus	18	F	S	BS	Student

35.71% of the participants were male while 64.29% were female. The average age of the participants (n=14) was 30.3 years old and 57.14% were single. 43% were undergraduate students while 29% of the participants are researchers and faculty members of their university. Initially, 78.6% of the participants thought that the training will be “Very Useful” to their current job or education, while 21.4% saw it only as “Useful”.

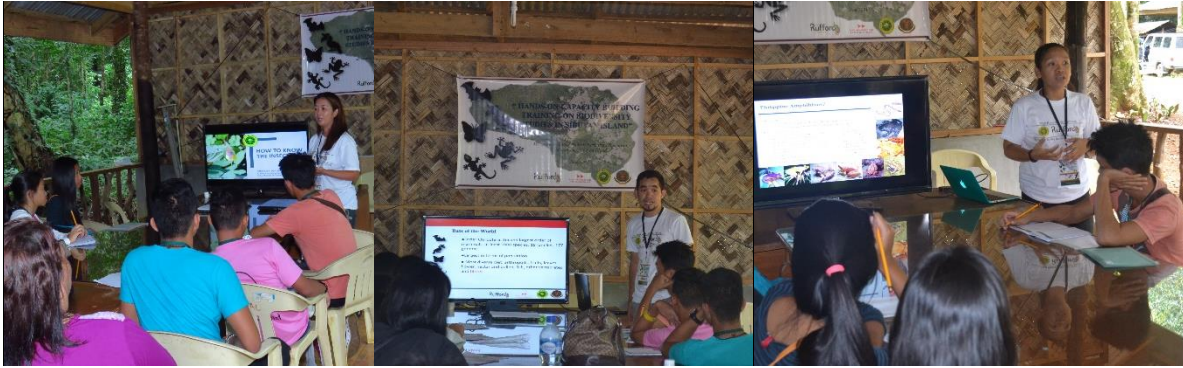
OUTPUT OF THE TRAINING

The training became a venue to foster collaboration between the University of the Philippines Los Banos Museum of Natural History, Romblon State University and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources- Mt. Guiting-Guiting Natural Park. In the workshop, participants identified several strengths and potential areas of research in their locality including their close proximity to field sites. However, they have indicated the lack of funds and expertise as the major constraints in pursuing biodiversity research in Sibuyan Island. Several insights on potential funding sources and institutions for partnerships and collaboration were also identified. Proposals for research projects are currently being drafted to continue the biodiversity studies in Sibuyan Island.

Photos



Participants, facilitators and volunteers after the training program



The facilitators giving their lectures
(Dr. Aimee Lynn B. Dupo, Mr. James DV. Alvarez, Ms. Camila G. Meneses)



Participants conducting their exercise on collection and preservation of arthropods



Participants conducting preservation and handling of Amphibians and Reptiles



Demonstration on how to set up mist nets for birds and bats and pitfall traps for amphibians and reptiles



Retrieval of bats captured in mist nets



James Alvarez facilitating the workshop of proposal writing



Final output of the Workshop on proposal writing

AWARDING OF CERTIFICATES TO THE PARTICIPANTS

There were 14 participants who received certificate of completion for the three- days hands-on training workshop for biodiversity field sampling techniques held at the DENR office.



Awarding of Certificates to all participants

EVALUATION

General Training Evaluation

Thirteen out of the 14 participants (92.9%) generally rated the training course as “Excellent”. One participant (7.1%) rated the course as “Good”. The average rating of the course is 4.93. Participants generally liked the course due to the following: very accommodating trainers, conducive venue and hands-on field activities and strategies in collecting different organisms. All the participants (100%) rated the training to be appropriate to their level of experience.

Report prepared by:

James DV. Alvarez

Aimee Lynn A. Barrion-Dupo

Camila G. Meneses

ANNEXURE A. DETAILED AGENDA OF THE TRAINING

Day 1 (June 10)

1. Lectures on different taxa and the methods employed in surveys and biodiversity studies
2. Hands-on activities in the field
 - a. Bats
 - i. Harp trapping
 - ii. Mist-netting
 - iii. Acoustic sampling
 - b. Herps
 - i. Opportunistic
 - ii. Pitfall-trapping
 - c. Arthropods
 - i. Opportunistic
 - ii. Pitfall-trapping
 - iii. Other methods (beat-net, litter sampling)

Day 2 (June 11)

1. Retrieval of captures from traps
2. Processing of specimens
3. Continuation of field activities

Day 3 (June 12)

1. Retrieval of captures
2. Processing of specimens
3. Submission of capsule proposal drafts
4. Synthesis and closing

	10 June	11 June	12 June
6:00-7:00		Retrieval of Nets/traps	Retrieval of Nets/traps
7:00-8:00		Breakfast	Breakfast
8:00-9:00	Arrival and Registration		
9:00-9:15			
9:15-10:15			
10:15-10:30	Training Overview		
10:30-11:30	Lecture 1: Invertebrates (Dr. Dupo)		
11:30-12:00	Lecture 2: Birds and Bats (Mr. Alvarez)	Identification and Processing of Collected Samples	Identification and Processing of Collected Samples
12:00-12:30		Lunch	Lunch
12:30-1:00	Lunch		
1:00-2:00		<i>Mt. Guiting-Guiting Natural Park, Brgy. Tampiyan, Magdiwang, Sibuyan Island</i> <i>June, 2017</i>	
2:00-3:00	Lecture 3: Herpetiles (S. Meneses)		
3:00-4:00		Set up traps, nets, etc.	Discussion of Results/ Workshop on Potential Research Areas
4:00-5:00	Set up traps, nets, etc.		Closing program and Awarding of Certificates
5:00-6:00			
6:00-7:00	Dinner	Dinner	
7:00-8:00			
	Mist netting, herping, insect collection	Mist netting, herping, insect collection	
	Group 1: Bats and Herps	Group 1: Bats and Herps	
	Group 2: Arthropods	Group 2: Arthropods	
8:00-9:00			