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Creation of fisheries network augurs rehabilitation of Maqueda Bay

Tacloban City (April 8) -- Samarenos are keeping their fingers crossed, optimistic that the rehabilitation and protection of the marine ecosystem of Maqueda Bay will be given greater attention and focus, with the creation of the South Maqueda Bay Fisheries Network.

The South Maqueda Bay Fisheries Network, Inc is composed of six local government units namely, Calbiga, Pinabacdao, San Sebastian, Daram, Villareal and Talalora, all in the province of Samar; the Diocesan Social Action Center; Government Organizations and media.

The creation of the Network is the result of the initiation of the Local Regional and Economic Development in the Province of Samar under the GTZ-DTI Small and Medium Enterprise Development for Sustainable Employment Program-Private Sector Promotion (SMEDSEP-PSP) and the League of Municipalities of the Philippines-Samar Chapter.

Provincial Director Asisclo T. Belena of the Department of Trade and Industry in Samar informed that the Network adopted as its development agenda, the rehabilitation and protection of the marine ecosystem of Maqueda Bay.

Considering the fact that Maqueda Bay is the source of livelihood for thousands of Samar constituents, the development agenda of the Network is well-placed, Director Belena said.

The major components of the Network are Advocacy and Linkaging, Integrated Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management and Regulation, Enterprise Development, and Resource Generation Management.

The enthusiastic members of the network are not wasting any time. A Technical Working Group was immediately commissioned to prepare and consolidate the Project Development and detailed implementation plan of the Fisheries Network.

In fact, Director Belena informed that the consolidated program of activities of the SMB Fisheries Network, Inc., would be presented to the six municipal mayors, different line agencies, civil organizations on April 13, 2009 at the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Regional Office. The activity will start at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon.

DTI Regional Director Desiderio Belas and PIA Regional Director Olive Tiu will be present to share their inputs on the direction of the SMB Fisheries Network and to express their support to the group, Director Belena said. (PIA 8) [\[top\]](#)

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