

# Supplementary information regarding the CDMP after the meeting of May 18<sup>th</sup> 2021 for the application of FlagT

This document replies to all the interrogations presented by the DENR during the deliberation of the Comprehensive Development and Management Plan presented in the FlagT application regarding Pangatalan Island, submitted by Sulubaaï Environmental Foundation (SEF), in process since 2016.

During the meeting of May 18<sup>th</sup> 2021, SEF provided insights regarding:

- A. Initial state of Pangatalan Island in 2010
- B. Development model of SEF regarding the use of Pangatalan Island
- C. Infrastructures existing on Pangatalan Island in 2016
- D. Environmental restoration of Pangatalan Island implemented by SEF
- E. Environmental impacts and mitigation measures

These elements were presented in 20 minutes in a virtual meeting in front of representative of the DENR and the PCSD and are reminded below.

After SEF presentation, the DENR representatives expressed the following interrogations:

- 1. What is the land classification of Pangatalan Island? Who is the property status of Pangatalan Island? Is SEF a Filipino foundation?
- 2. What is the history of this flagT application?
- 3. Are there updates regarding the CDMP presented in 2019?
- 4. What is the area of Pangatalan island applying for a FlagT?
- 5. Is there any other construction planned in the upcoming 25 years? If so, describe their purpose, location and structural specifications.

The answers to these interrogations were provided during the meeting and are presented below.

# Answers provided during the deliberation meeting and supplementary information

#### 1. History of the FlagT application process initiated by SEF in 2016

SEF initiated the process of FlagT application in 2016. The steps are described in the table below.

Table 1: History of the FlagT application process

DATE	TYPE	STEP					
2016, Dec 16 <sup>th</sup>	Submission	Submission of the FlagT application to the CENRO Taytay					
2017, Apr 18 <sup>th</sup>	Endorsement	Endorsement of the FlagT application by the DENR Mimaropa					
2018, Nov	Inspection	Ocular inscrection on Pangatalan Island by the DENR Mimaropa (Mme Ramina & Mr Mantubig)					
2019, Jan 28 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting	Meeting with Mr Mantubig (DENR Mimaropa)					
2019, May 17 <sup>th</sup>	Submission	Submission of the CDMP to the CENRO Taytay					
2019, July 18 <sup>th</sup>	Endorsement	Endorsement of the CDMP by the PENRO Palawan					
2019, Aug 13 <sup>th</sup>	Reception	CDMP received by the DENR Mimaropa					
2019, Oct 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Inspection	Ocular inspection on site by DENR Mimaropa (M. Alfred Lopez)					
2019, Nov 13 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting	Meeting regarding the FlagT map					
2020, Feb 21 <sup>st</sup>	Meeting	Meeting regarding the GeoPoint and the SEP clearance					
2021, May 19 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting	Deliberation of the Comprehensive Development and Management Plan					

#### 2. Updates regarding the CDMP presented in 2019

The updates were presented during the deliberation (see paragraphs A, B, C, D, E in the next section).

#### 3. Administrative status of Pangatalan Island since 2011

Pangatalan Island is located in barangay Depla, Municipality of Taytay, Province of Palawan.

Pangatalan Island has an area of 4.2 ha and is classified as timberland. It is divided in two parts regarding the administrative status, which are declared since 2011 as (see the official tax declaration below):

- Part 1 (property index 066-23-015-07-007): composed of 2.3 ha declared as coconut land with Joy Blasselle as owner.
- Part 2 (property index 066-23-015-07-008): composed of 1 ha declared as cashew land and 0.9 ha declared as coconut land, with the Republic of the Philippines as owner, and Joy Blasselle as administrator.

Sulubaaï Environmental Foundation (SEF) is a Philippino foundation. It is allowed to implement its (lawfully allowed) activities on Pangatalan Island, as declared by Joy Blasselle in 2015. (See the official declaration in the Appendix). Frédéric Tardieu, as president of Sulubaaï Environmental Foundation (SEF), represents the foundation in the process of the FlagT application.

See below copis/extract of the following documents:

- Declaration of real property of Pangatalan Island
- Declaration by Joy Blasselle as owner of Pangataln Island in favor of the use of the Island by SEF
- Article of incorporation of Sulubaaï Environmental Foundation

RPA	Form	No. 1	
TAX	DECL	ARATION	N

015-0410-A

# DECLARATION OF REAL PROPERTY

			(FILED UNDE	R RA 7160)					
Owner	JOY	BLASSELLE		Address	MANALO	EXT., PUE	RTO PRINCE	SA CITY	
Administrator		-		Address	and a			and a	
-	-	DESCRIPTION	AND OTHER PA	RTICULARS	OF PROPERT	rv			
Location of Prope			PANGATALAN		DIPLA		TAYTAY, PALAWAN		
	- ON			(Barangay/Di	add of the				
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Boundaries:	-		ipod bragol		- men			100	
North		ALN 008		South		SEAS	HODE		
East		SEASHOR		West	SEASHORE SEASHORE				
	15	Sala chasts lets or					- Contains		
		1	treams by which bound (a) (AGRICULTUI	RALMINERA	L)	nas)			
OWN Kind	ER'S DECLARAT	ION		A	SSESSOR'S FE	NDINGS			
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	25000	113,000.00	COCOUNT LAND	2.3000 na	COCON2-ML	70,	000.00	161,000.0	
Total	23000	P 115,000.00	Total	2.3 ha	2000				
			I (b) (PLANTS					P 161,000.0	
OWN	ER'S DECLARATI	ON		A	SESSOR'S FI	IDINGS			
Kind	No./A	Value	Market Value Adjustments:		Kind	No./Area	Unit Value	Market Value	
			(a) Along or -12 no rd. frontage	*	COCONUT-2	200	190.00	38,000.0	
			(b) kmu to -10		-	_	-		
	~		all weather rd.	%	303.19		10.75		
			(c) kms to -12						
			market (pob) Total Adjustment -34	76					
			Adjusted Market Valo			-			
					-			and the same	
			Total					P 38,000.00	
Total			Total for land, plants					P 199,000.00	
	81	AND (RESIDE	Total Adjusted Marke NTIAL, COMMERC	CIAL INDUS	TRIAL COFCU		1	P 131,340.00	
OWN	ER'S DECLARATE	ON	TIPL, COMMEN		SESSOR'S FIN				
Kind	Area			Area Unit Value		Adjustme	ents   Mari	ket Value	
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			_						
	1910	111			CESTSTON	20100	_		
					10	200			
				11-11-11	60 VO				
rad .									
Total	0	P 0.00	Total	0 sqm	W. D	5 3 5 7 10 10		P 0.00	

P 0.00 Total

#### DECLARATION

I, Joy Blasselle, of legal age, Filipino and resident of Hibiscus Place, Manalo Street, Puerto Princesa city do hereby declare that I consent to the application before government offices by SULUBAAI ENVIRONMENTAL FOUNDATION INC. for the use of the property known as Assessors Lot No. 07-007 under Tax Declaration No. 015-0410-A located at Sitio Pangatalan, Dipla, Taytay, Palawan with an estimated area of 2.3 hectares consonant to the lawfully allowed and permitted activities of the said foundation as maybe allowed in the area by the government.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I hereunto affix my signature this January 28, 2015 at Puerto Princesa City, Palawan.

JOY BLASSELLE Declarant

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

# REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES) CITY OF PUERTO PRINCESA

BEFORE ME this January 28, 2015 at Puerto Princesa City personally appeared the above named person who is personally known to me, known to me to be the same person who executed the foregoing instrument and she acknowledged to me that the same is her free act and deed.

Doc. No. 34130T

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Commissioned Botary Public for Palawan Juffil December 31, 2015, Attail Avenue Harrin Princesa Cay, Attainey Roll No. 40166 HTR No. 0073177; 0193744, PPC 18P USN 04178, Registered: UK and US Embassy



#### REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SEC Building, EDSA, Greenhills City of Mandaluyong, Metro Manila

> COMPANY REG. NO. CN201212105 COMPANY TIN 008-320-121

#### CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

#### KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS:

This is to certify that the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws of

#### SULUBAAI ENVIRONMENTAL FOUNDATION INC.

were duly approved by the Commission on this date upon the issuance of this Certificate of Incorporation in accordance with the Corporation Code of the Philippines (Batas Pambansa Blg.68), and copies of said Articles and By-Laws are bereto attached.

This Certificate grants juridical personality to the corporation but does not authorize it to undertake business activities requiring a Secondary License from this Commission such as, but not limited to acting as: broker or dealer in securities, government securities eligible dealer (GSED), investment adviser of an investment company, close-end or open-end investment company, investment house, transfer agent, commodity/financial futures exchange/broker/merchant, financing company, pre-need plan issuer, general agent in pre-need plans and time shares/club shares/membership certificates issuers or selling agents thereof. Neither does this Certificate constitute as permit to undertake activities for which other government agencies require a license or permit.

As a registered corporation, it shall submit annually to this Commission the reports indicated at the back of this certificate.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of this Commission to be affixed at Mandaluyong City, Metro Manila, Philippines, this 2 ml day of July, Twenty Twelve.

FERDINAND B. SALES
Officer-in-Charge

Company Registration and Monitoring Department

#### 4. Area of Pangatalan Island applying for a FlagT

M. Alfred Lopez (DENR), who did the ocular inspection of Pangatalan Island in 2019, is in charge to map the area applicable for the FlagT. As discussed during the deliberation the surface should not include the mangrove area nor the area within the 40m distance from the high tide level. Sulubaaï would agree on an area included between 15,000 sqm and 18,000 sqm.

#### 5. Development plan of SEF regarding the use of Pangatalan Island

SEF has no plan to build anymore on Pangatalan in the coming 25 years except for one facility: a "fish lab" (40 square meters) as part of its project Sea Academy described below.

In 2021, SEF is starting a 3-years lasting project called Sea Academy: for a sustainable management of the marine resources in Shark Fin Bay ». This project was validated by the DENR-BMB, the PCSD, and the UNESCO. This project is based on the creation of 3 additional marine protected areas in Shark Fin Bay, supported by the local LGUs. It will implement 4 main type of actions: 1) protection and study of the ecosystems, 2) restoration of ecosystems, 3) education on ecosystems and training of local population regarding their sustainable management, 4) communication and assistance to replicate the project in other area.

The fish lab building that is planned in the Sea Academy project is necessary to implement a powerful restoration technique of fish populations. This technique, called PCC for post-larca capture-culture-release, consists of capturing fish post-larvae in the wild close to the MPAs of Shark Fin Bay, then raise these fish during 2 or 3 months until they reach the juvenile size, and release them inside MPA. All these steps follow guidelines in order to maximize the survivorship of the fish until they recover their wild status. The fish lab would be a building a 40 sqm (5m x 8m), made out of concrete in order to ensure the good conditions of raising fish (temperature, shade, easy cleaning) and to avoid the contamination factors. It will shelter small aquariums with a volume comprise between 0.05 m3 and 1 m3, used to raise the fish separately according to their species traits. The fish lab would need to be located very close to the sea in order to be supplied by sea water and to carry the fish in and out.

The coordinates of the 4 corners of the fish lab would be:

- 1. 119.562787, 11.086310
- 2. 119.562740, 11.086251
- 3. 119.562824, 11.086279
- 4. 119.562778, 11.086219

The following map present the location planned for the fish lab on Pangatalan Island. SEF is willing to provide any furterh information regarding this project of fish lab.



Location planned for the fish
lab as part of the socioenvironmental project Sea
Academy led by SEF
1m above sea level
10m from sea level



Figure 1: LEFT: example of a fish lab as sulubaai plan to build it including several aquarium tanks to raise fish species seperately. RIGHT: example of post larvae raised in an aquarium inside the fish lab.

## Insights presented during the deliberation meeting on May 18th

#### A. Initial state of Pangatalan Island in 2010

Nothing is known about the history of the island. Previous to 2011, Pangatalan Island was a private property with only one care taker living on the island. The state of the island in 2011 shows that previously some resources were exploited on the island and in the surrounding marine area: trees were cut, mangroves were burnt, sand was collected, a substantial fish trap was installed on the coral reef, and there were obvious impacts of blast fishing. These observations lead to the conclusion that the natural resources of Pangatalan Island and it surrounding marine area were severely impacted by unsustainable practices until 2011.

That's why Sulubaaï Environmental Foundation was created: in order to restore the ecosystems of Pangatalan Island and its surrounding marine area as first objective, and to extend these efforts for ecosystem restoration and sustainable management in other areas.

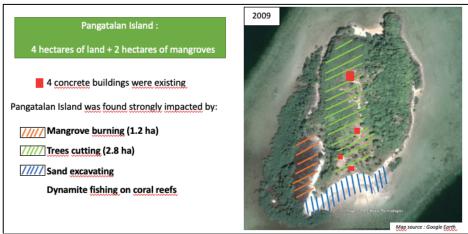


Figure 2: Slide extracted from the presentation made by SEF on May 18th 2021

### B. Development model of SEF regarding the use of Pangatalan Island

To develop an eco-tourism activity is essential to support the protection and restoration of ecosystems. The eco-tourism activity would provide just enough fundings to:

- ✓ Maintain Pangatalan island sustainable
- ✓ Implement the protection and restoration of ecosystems

The eco-tourism plan includes:

- ✓ Maximum of 3 months-rent / year
- ✓ Maximum of 6 pers / night
- ✓ Guests would respect an eco-friendly charter

The development model of SEF regarding the use of Pangatalan Island Is summarize in the following diagram



Figure 3: development model of Sulubaaï Environmental Foundation regarding the use of Pangataalan Island

#### C. Infrastuctures on Pangatalan Island existing in 2016

SEF obtained legal construction permits from the municipality of Taytay and were not informed about any further authorisations needed regarding buildings. The buildings were built in the same place of initial buildings (as found in 2011) and in areas free of trees. They are made out of local low environmental impact material (dismentel wood, concrete, cogon and nipa). SEF was not aware of the rule claiming to leave non-building area within the 40 meters distance from the level of high tide. However, most of the buildings respect this distance. DENR representatives cam on Pangataln Island in 2018 and in 2019 and proceed to ocular inspections to geo-tag the trees and the infrastructures.

Regarding the buildings within the 40m-strip from high tide, their location is very much linked to their purpose and their environmental impact is very low:

- 6. the diving hut is a very small building, non-inhabitated, necessarily close to the sea in order to serve its purpose of being the place to shelter the diving equipment of the marine biologists working for SEF.
- 7. The waiting place is made out of wood, with no wall, serving the following purpose: sheltering the guards of the marine protected area in case of bad wether, be a sheltered place to wait for and meet visitors.

This building are discrete, well integrated in the landscape, made out of non-impacting materials, they are not inhabited and do not reject waste.

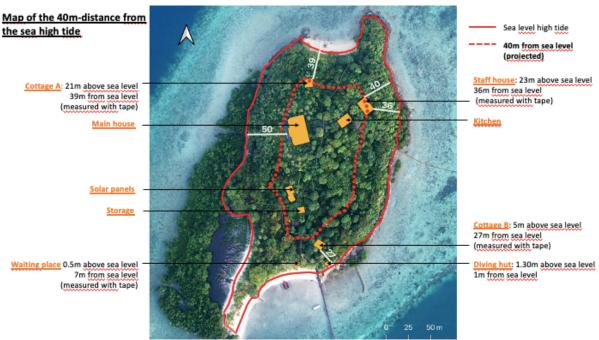


Figure 4: Map of the existing buildings on Pangatalan island (in 2021) and their distance to the high tide level.



Figure 5: Pictures of the buildings of Pangatalan Island.

#### D. Environmental restoration of Pangatalan Island implemented by SEF

Since 2012, SEF has worked on the restoration of the ecosystem on Pangatalan Island and its surrounding area. From 2011, SEF planted more than 60,000 trees and 10,000 mangrove propagules, cleaned the mangrove and the beach from the waste, and build anti run-off stone walls in order to limit the rainfall erosion and to help the revegetation. The following pictures illustrate these actions. The results of the revegetation initiated by SEF are visible on the aerial picture presented below.



Figure 6: before-after pictures taken on Pangatalan island in 2011 and 2019 to illustrate the 60 000 plants added on the island by SEF within the 8 years.



Figure 7: before-after pictures taken on Pangatalan island in 2011 and 2019 to illustrate the 10 000 mangrove propagules planted on the island by SEF within the 8 years



Figure 8: before-after pictures taken on Pangatalan island in 2012 and 2020 to illustrate the cleaning of the beach made by SEF



Figure 9: before-after aerial picture of Pangatalan Island to illustrate the revegetation of the island initiated by SEF

As presented in the CDMP, SEF initiated in 2016 a marine protected area around Pangataan Island with the support of the local LGU concerned. The positive impact of this MPA on the is demonstrated by the annual monitoring surveys conducted by SEF. Furthermore, the survey conducted by the WWF in the MPAs located in the municipal waters of Taytay showed that the MPA of Pangatalan Island is the more productive of those MPA in term of fish abundance and biomass.

#### E. Environmental impacts and mitigation measures

SEF is aware of the potential environmental impact of its activities on Pangatalan Island.

Currently the total area covered by infrastuctures is 1845 square meters. It is less than 5% of the total area of Pangatalan Island. The buildings are only ground level, less high than the trees and made out low impacting material (local dismentel wood, concrete, roof in nipa and cogon).

The 6 people living on Pangatalan Island the potential guests consum energy. However, 95% of this energy is solar sourced. SEF has sufficient solar panels power to meet its potential guests' needs.

The 6 people living on Pangatalan Island the potential guests produce waste. SEF equipped Pangatalan with mitigation systems: the waste waters are purified thought septic tanks and used for gardening, the organic matters are used as compost, the solid waste are segregated

and transported to the MRF center of Taytay. SEF ensure that there is no waste left of the land or sea.

The number of people on Pangatalan Island is really low: only 6 people live on Pangatalan Island, and the potential number of tourists is 6 additional people. If SEF can open the island for eco-tourism activity, it would be for a maximum period of 3 months per year, just enough to provide funding for the environmental activities of the foundation. Anyone being on the island respect the wild flora and fauna, domestic animals are not allowed in order to preserve the native wild fauna.

The sustainable management of Pangatalan island by SEF was awarded by three labels in 2019:

- 8. The label "Sustainable Island" by the SMILO (Small Island Organization)
- 9. The label "Zero Carbon Resort" by the PCSD
- 10. The label "Responsible tourism" by the Responsible Tourism Institute

### **Concluding remarks**

SEF is confident that the DENR will be understanding regarding the location of buildings already existing and the fish lab planned since these buildings are considered to have low environmental impact and some are intended to help the restoration of ecosystems.

SEF apologize for not being aware of the water code regulation wen building the infrastructures previously to 2016, and SEF is willing to respect the applicable regulations.

The deliberation meeting on May 18<sup>th</sup> 2021 concluded that:

- the DENR will provide the final map of the area applying for the FlagT, on which SEF is willing to agree.
- the DENR will recommend adjustments on the existing buildings located within the 40m strip from the high tide level, on which SEF is willing to comply.