

15 March 2023

LORMELYN E. CLAUDIO, CESO IV

Regional Executive Director

Department of Environment and Natural Resources IV-B

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Dear Regional Executive Director Claudio,

Greetings!

The World Wide Fund (WWF) for Nature Philippines, is executing the Targeting Regional Investigations for Policing Opportunities and Development (TRIPOD) Project, a Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL)-funded, with International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) and Freeland Foundation, a Thailand-based Non-Governmental Organization (NGO), as the primary holder of the project. This initiative is being supported by Department of Environment and Natural Resources - Biodiversity Management Bureau (DENR-BMB).

Pursuantly, the TRIPOD Project will conduct a Care for Confiscated Wildlife (CCW) regional workshop, which will include the introduction to ShellBank project together with the counterparts from Indonesia and Malaysia, on **May 9-12, 2023 in Quezon City**.

ShellBank is the world's first traceability toolkit and global database of marine turtle DNA. This tool is designed to effectively strengthen marine turtle conservation, by using forensics not only in a conservation, but also in a law enforcement context. The workshop will update participants on the newest development under ShellBank, such as its launch at the CITES Conference of Parties. In addition, breakout groups will identify turtle trade hotspots and discuss needs for transboundary efforts.

In this regard, we would like to invite **Ms. Ma. Vivian Soriano, Senior Ecosystems Management Specialist**, as suggested by BMB Wildlife Conservation Section, who possess the knowledge and experience necessary to be shared in the workshop. The Project believe that the participation of the personnel will be instrumental not only to the event but also to the success of collaboration of the three countries as a whole. Please see attached registration form to be filled up by the target participant.

The expenses in connection with the regional workshop (e.g. airfare, meals and accommodation) shall be chargeable on the TRIPOD Project. Hence, this shall not, in any way, entail any expenses on the part of the Philippine Government or on the target participants.

Should you have any queries on the matter, you may contact the staff of our partner organization, Tanggol Kalikasan, Inc. (TK) Ms. Doris Amandy (0922 759 0375) at dmamandy@tanggolkalikasan.org or Ms. Mary Rose Satoya-Bautista (0916 956 4534) at mrbsatoya@tanggolkalikasan.org

Thank you and we look forward for your positive response on the matter.

Very truly yours,



KATHERINE CUSTODIO

Executive Director

World Wide Fund for Nature Philippines (WWF)