

FOCAS STRATEGY

The FOCAS Strategy Framework for the Lake Mainit area adopts the improved version of the Lake Mainit Environmental Management Plan but with more focus on several aspects. This is the result of the series of activities conducted by the alliance with the other sectors of society in the area. The activities are meetings, consultations and multi-stakeholders fora.

GOAL

To properly manage the Lake Mainit ecosystem and develop potential resources in order to reduce poverty and improve the quality of life in the area.

The Components & their purposes

Upland & Lowland Development & Management

- To provide the community the desired forest products and services and promote biodiversity conservation

River Management

- To stabilize the riverbanks and minimize the siltation of rivers.

Lake Management

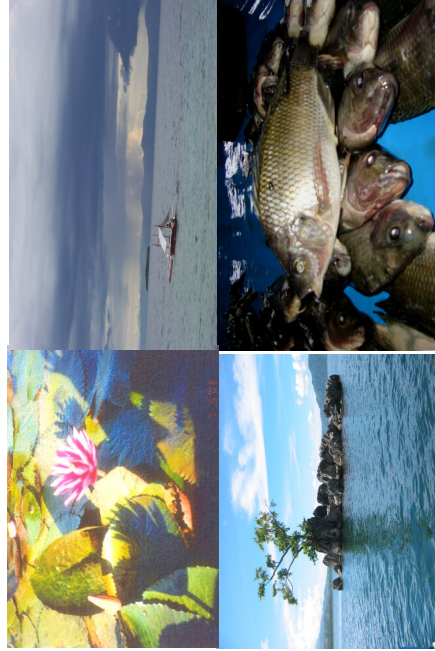
- To provide the community the aquatic products, livelihood and maintain the biodiversity of the lake

Urban Settlement Areas

- To protect the lake from pollution and contamination

Institutional Strengthening of Civil Society

- To promote greater involvement of the private sector, local communities and other stakeholders in the sustainable management of the lake and its environs



PARTNERS & STAKEHOLDERS

SURIGAO DEL NORTE AGUSAN DEL NORTE



ALEGRIA

MAINIT

TUBOD

SISON



KITCHARAO

JABONGA

SANTIAGO

TUBAY

LINE AGENCIES AND STAKEHOLDERS

DENR NEDA ACADEME

PIA BFAR NGOs

DA DOT POS

Agusan del Norte

HON. ERLPE JOHN M. AMANTE

Provincial Governor/LMDA Chairperson

HON. ROBERT ACE S. BARBERS

Surigao del Norte
Provincial Governor

Lake Mainit FOCAS Management Committee

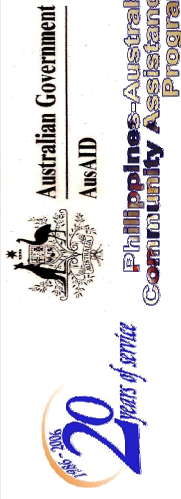
- Engr. Kaiser B. Recabo, Jr. - LMDA Project Director
 Engr. Ronald John R. Matela - Rep. Surigao del Norte
 Engr. Nivard S. Gonzales - Rep. Agusan del Norte
 Engr. Imelda P. Plaza - NEDA Representative
 Mr. Felix P. Maglaque - PO, SDN Rep.
 Mr. Albert M. Garrido - PO, ADN Rep.
 Ms. Glenda A. Plaza, AADC-Mindanao - NGO, ADN Rep.
 Mr. Jerry B. Acero - Academe, SNCAT
 Mr. Emmanuel Miraballes - NGO, SDN Rep.
 Ms. Monina G. Hernandez - PACAP Ex-Officio Member

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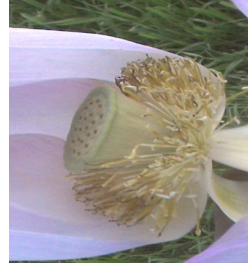
"Helping communities help themselves".

Lake Mainit - Focal Community Assistance Scheme (LM-FOCAS)



The lake and its watershed . . .

A source of life !



Lake Mainit Development Alliance



Background

Lake Mainit is the fourth largest lake in the country. It has a total area of about 17,060 hectares with a shoreline measuring about 62.10 kilometers. The lake belongs to Surigao del Norte and Agusan del Norte.

The watershed area is about 87,072 hectares and support 99 barangays in the eight municipalities. The lake is reported to be the habitat of rare fish species: the *puyo* or climbing perch and *gabot*. The species are said to have become rare due to the introduction of new fish species.

Around the lake are habitats of other threatened rare wildlife. This gives the lake and its surrounding area a high ecological value, prompting a proposal to declare the Lake Mainit Watershed as a protected area under the National Integrated Protected Area System (NIPAS).

The stakeholders have recognized the need to undertake careful planning and coordination of all policies and actions to sustainably manage the development of the lake resource.

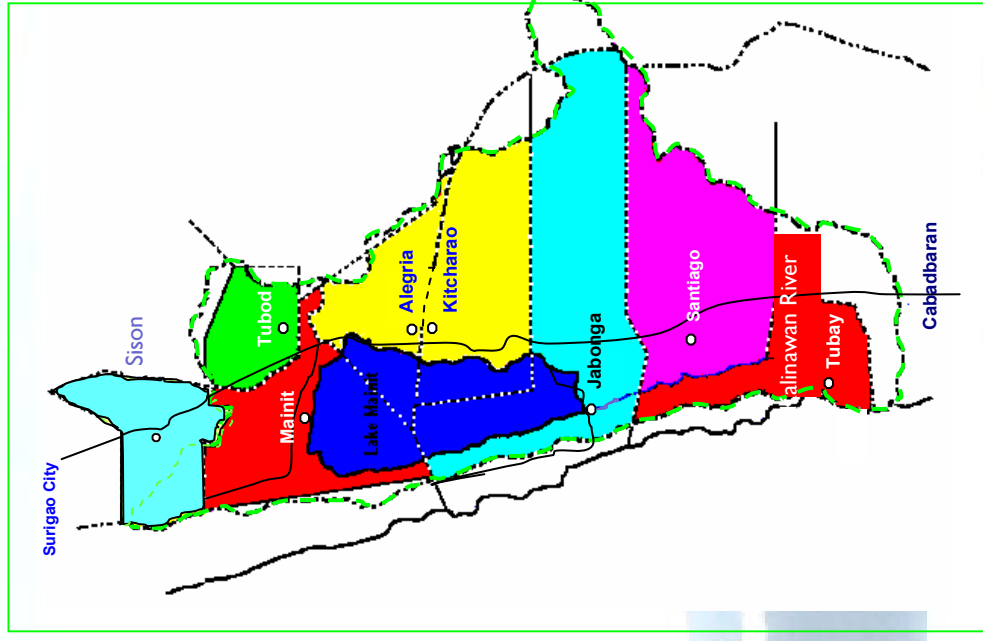
With the assistance and interventions of the Local Government Support Program, the Lake Mainit Development Alliance (LMDA) was established on March 9, 1999.

Overview of the LMDA — FOCAS

Surigao del Norte is a recipient of PACAP funding under the AusAID Country Program Strategy (CPS) targeted provinces. The geographical condition of the area divided the province into four (4) clusters namely the Hinatuan Passage, Dinagat Island, Siargao Island and Lake Mainit. The Lake Mainit is one of the cluster and treated as one ecosystem.

The watershed framework serves as the basis for delineating the planning area. For this particular plan, the planning unit covered the bigger Lake Mainit watershed which extends from Sison, Mainit, Alegria and Tubod in Surigao del Norte, down to Tubay in Agusan del Norte. It covers all rivers that flow into Lake Mainit, the whole length of Kalinawan River and all its tributaries. Activities within the watershed can have impacts on the lake or Kalinawan River which will ultimately affect the coastal area of Tubay.

Lake Mainit Watershed: The Target Area



VISION

Lake Mainit as a diverse ecosystem with safe and crystal clear waters surrounded by verdant mountains & endowed with abundant natural resources, and as an ecotourism destination sustainably managed by an empowered citizenry for economic development and environmental protection.

MISSION

With the aid of Divine Providence guided by the principles of growth and development between communities & generation through skilled & resourceful personnel, the LMDA support and assist the LGU's in effective & efficient delivery of basic services, enforcement of environmental laws & policies to pursue the sustainable development & management of Lake Mainit through promotion of ecological & recreational values, conservation, protection of natural resources, enhancement of economic activities **people empowerment for the improvement of the quality of life of its constituents.**

PACAP INTERVENTION

The intervention of PACAP will be based on the Lake Mainit Development Agenda. Since the concept of intervention in the Lake Mainit area is an ecosystem approach, the plan was revised to suit the FOCAS program as agreed by the multi stakeholders.

PACAP GOAL:

To reduce poverty and improve the standard of living of poor communities through sustainable economic and social development.

PACAP PURPOSE:

- To support community-initiated sustainable poverty alleviation programs and activities, and
- To assist capability-building initiatives of the non-profit (primarily NGOs and Pos) and LGUs to provide services that meet community-initiated need.

PACAP Funding Scheme:

- Focal Community Assistance Scheme (FOCAS); and
- Responsive Activity Scheme (RAS)

The following are the observed threats to the Lake Mainit Watershed:



- Forest Denudation
- Illegal Mining
- Use of Agro-Chemicals
- Loss of Wetland
- Increasing population in settlements near the lake
- Unsustainable Fishing Practices
- Lack of Enforcement of the Laws and Ordinances